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## Kuwait launches diplomatic offensive against Iraqi complaint

# Council rejects Baghdad claim on oil, renounces policy of threats, extortion

### US firm in support of Gulf 'friends'; Jordan to intercede

**KUWAIT, July 18, (Kuna):** Kuwait's National Council today rejected Iraq's memorandum to the Arab League's secretary-general over the country's oil production policies, describing it as inconsistent with the spirit of Arab fraternity and the Islamic religion.

A council statement issued here today after a special in-camera session called for by the government affirmed that "Kuwait which abides by the principles of world justice and peace, renounces the policy of violence, threats and extortion and reiterates its firm

adherence to international conventions and those of the Arab League and other regional and international organisations."

The statement stressed that Kuwait has been generously assisting its sisterly Arab countries in all circumstances and hard times, citing Kuwait's national stand toward the Iraq-Iran war which exposed the country to acts of subversion and blackmailing.

It underlined that, nevertheless, Kuwait did not succumb and did not retreat from supporting the Arab stand materially and morally at all Arab, Islamic and international levels.

The statement strictly affirmed that Kuwait would remain faithful to honour all its national commitments.

"The council, which denounces what was contained in the memorandum of the Iraqi government for its violation of neighbourly rights, overlooking the duties of Arab and Islamic fraternity and its words and expressions which contradict the international values and norms, hereby stresses the need to adhere to the principles of consultation and understanding and steering of dialogue in contemplation before circulating accusations against Kuwait or attempting to cast doubts on its national and humanitarian stands," read the statement.

The council expressed confidence in the country's wise political leadership, saying it is capable of adopting necessary measures necessitated by the circumstances.

Kuwait meanwhile, launched a wide-scale drive to explain the Kuwaiti point of view vis-a-vis an Iraqi complaint against it which was delivered to Arab League council two days ago.

Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber left this afternoon to Saudi Arabia in the first leg of a tour that will take him to other GCC member states to hand over messages from HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed to the leaders.

Sheikh Sabah told Kuna prior to departure that the messages "deal with the contents of the complaint forwarded by the brethren in Iraq to the Arab League council."

The Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Dr Abdel Rahman Al Awadi later left for Egypt, Sudan,

Djibouti, Somalia, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon on a similar mission.

The Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs, Dhari Abdullah Al Othman will in the meantime leave for Arab Maghreb countries to deliver similar messages from the Amir to the leaders of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania.

■ US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher told reporters after the Iraqi outburst: "We ... remain strongly committed to supporting the individual and collective self-defence of our friends in the Gulf with whom we have deep and longstanding ties."

Asked if the United States would provide military help against an Iraqi attack, Boucher said: "Clearly, we're strongly committed to supporting the individual and collective self-defence of our friends in the Gulf."

The United States, whose warships still patrol oil shipping lanes in the Gulf, has criticised President Saddam Hussein in recent weeks for speeches boasting of Iraq's binary chemical arms arsenal and threatening to destroy half of Israel.

Jordan's Information Minister Ibrahim Ezulain today stressed that his country, making use of its distinctive relations with Kuwait, Iraq and other Arab countries, would strenuously work for clearing Arab atmosphere to avoid the complication of differences between two or more Arab countries.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak today received a message from HH the Amir of Kuwait. The message was delivered by Dr Abdelrahman Al Awadi.

## PLO ultimatum to Hezbollah

64 killed, 218 wounded in inter-Shiite bloodbath

**SARBA, Lebanon, July 18, (Agencies):** Fierce battles raged today in south Lebanon between Shiite Muslim factions, and the PLO warned that it will evict the PLO-Iranian Hezbollah from a strategic hilltop village if it does not withdraw in 24 hours.

Police said at least 64 Shiites have been killed and 218 wounded in the fighting between the fundamentalist Hezbollah, and the more secular Amal which broke out Monday.

Six PLO fighters were wounded by Hezbollah fire on a Palestinian force that

intervened to halt the inter-Shiite bloodbath, a police spokesman said.

The PLO deployment in the disputed region placed Yasser Arafat's fighters close to Israeli reprisals.

The Shiite factions ignored an appeal by the International Committee of the Red Cross for a "humanitarian ceasefire" and evacuate bodies littering the battle ground in Iqlim Al Tuffah, or Apple province.



Sharif

Pakistan's top opposition leader and Chief Minister of Punjab Nawaz Sharif, in a wide-ranging exclusive interview with *Arab Times*, blames his country's ruling party for glorifying terrorists, thereby escalating violence and crime. He calls for a national strategy to curb drug trafficking and says his party can stem the tide of 'anarchy' if given the chance. Although he supports Pakistan's stand on Kashmir, he said a war is not in anyone's interest.

See Page 13



**Reunion**

The imprisoned British nurse Daphne Parish (left) embraces her daughter Michelle as they were reunited at London's Gatwick airport yesterday.

Story Page 5

### Troops kill 150 Tamil guerrillas

**COLOMBO, July 18, (Reuters):** More than 150 Tamil guerrillas and three government soldiers were killed in fierce gunbattles in northeastern Sri Lanka, a military spokesman said today.

He said 91 rebels were killed at Mankulam in the north when troops yesterday cleared bunkers outside a military camp that had been under siege for the past three weeks.

Three soldiers were killed and 14 wounded when the rebels counter-attacked.

Details Page 13



Combined US Airforce servicemen and Philippine Army remove a school girl from the debris of Christian College. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Fire raises toll to 600

**BAGUIO, Philippines, July 18, (Reuters):** Up to 150 factory workers, burned when a powerful earthquake hit the northern Philippines, burned to death as fire swept through the wreckage where they lay trapped, a government spokesman said today.

Smoke still curled over Baguio city as Japanese and extra US rescue teams helped Philippine troops shift through flattened buildings in a bid to free scores of people still trapped under rubble three days after the tragedy which has claimed almost 600 lives.

### Detailed coverage - Page 14 -

Almost 300 people died in the northern hill resort of Baguio alone where 28 large buildings including the luxury Hyatt Hotel lie in ruins, government spokesman Tomas Gomez told reporters.

The exact death toll from the fire at the cluster of small multinational-owned factories in the export-processing zone will not be known until it is extinguished.

"Apparently there were also chemicals in that export processing zone and garments which is the reason why it went up in flames," Gomez said.

Rescuers are certain the number of deaths will rise. Medical workers say no signs of an epidemic have surfaced in the town, some 200 km (120 miles) from Manila, but the danger will increase if bodies are not recovered within 48 hours.

Thousands of people fled this isolated mountain city today as aftershocks slowed the search for survivors.

Damage from Monday's earthquake, the worst to hit the Philippines in 14 years, was much more extensive than first believed in Luzon island, Manila television stations reported.

### Lanka to lift ban on labour for Kuwait

**COLOMBO, July 18, (Kuna):** The temporary ban imposed on Sri Lankans being employed in Kuwait will be lifted with effect from August 1, Labour Ministry officials said today.

The Sri Lanka government imposed this ban on June 21 after Labour Minister G.M. Premachandra on an unofficial visit to Kuwait claimed finding at least 16,000 Lankans being jobless.

Premachandra claimed this situation had developed due to illegal job recruiting agencies operating in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lankan recruiting agents protested vehemently against the ban as many claimed it to be unfair as perfectly legal agencies were being penalised.

Having agreed to lift the ban the Sri Lankan government has laid down 15 terms and conditions which all recruiting companies will have to abide by.

All recruiting agents will now have to work in complete collaboration with the state-owned Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau.

They further said all employers in Kuwait will have to sign a contract with the Sri Lankan embassy in Kuwait guaranteeing employment terms to any male or female taken from Sri Lanka.

Also the Sri Lanka government laid down a term that Lankan labour to Kuwait will only be approved for a minimum wage of \$150.

## Indo-Pak talks on Kashmir open

Final round today: Indian envoy meets Ishaq, Benazir

### Subcontinent Page 13

#### Federal rule

**NEW DELHI, July 18, (AP):** The government today imposed direct federal rule in Kashmir, where Indian security forces are battling to put down a rebellion by Muslim separatists.

The decision to impose federal rule, known as the president's rule, reflected the belief that Jammu-Kashmir state was too unstable to be run by an elected local government.

radio report.

Ishaq Khan pressed for a lasting solution to the 43-year-old dispute over Kashmir.

"If it is temporarily buried it will rise again," he warned.

Dubey told Ishaq Khan he came to Pakistan "with an open heart and sincerity to build an atmosphere of confidence and trust between the two



Pakistan Foreign Secretary Tanveer Ahmed Khan (left) and his Indian counterpart Nuchkund Dubey (extreme right) hold their first round of talks in Islamabad. (Reuters wirephoto)

countries," Radio Pakistan reported.

No agenda was set for the talks. India has refused to discuss the Muslim rebellion in its state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan's prime minister, however, told a press conference yesterday that the Kashmir separatist movement was the "central issue" to achieving peace in the subcontinent.

Dubey declined to say whether he was prepared to broach the subject. Kashmir was divided between India and Pakistan in 1947 when British colonial rule ended in the subcontinent. The territory has been a source of tension in Indo-Pakistani relations since then.

Relations between India and Pakistan, who have fought three previous wars, began to improve in 1989.

But a new round of accusations over Kashmir began in January when Indian soldiers launched a crackdown on the Muslim rebels seeking

(Continued on Page 13)

### Public holiday: All government offices and businesses in Kuwait will be closed next Monday for a public holiday marking the beginning of a new Hijra year, it was officially announced on Wednesday. (Kuna)

**Actress joins sheep protest:** British actress Virginia McKenna, known for her role in the movie "Born Free", joined a doctside protest against live sheep exports Wednesday.

McKenna, on vacation in western Australia state, condemned the practice as "cruel and totally unnecessary" and urged it to be banned.

The demonstration was held by 25 animal activists in an attempt to disrupt the loading of 50,000 sheep onto the Kuwaiti livestock carrier Al Khalid.

Four of the protesters were arrested after running onto one of the ship's loading ramps. (AP)

**Soviet-Seoul talks:** The Soviet Union has agreed to talks with South Korea on creating full diplomatic ties, a spokesman for President Roh Tae-Woo said on Tuesday.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev accepted Roh's proposal for the talks in an exchange of letters, the spokesman told reporters. (Reuters)

**Riyadh plans to change ties with Taiwan:** A special envoy informed Taiwan Wednesday that Saudi Arabia plans to change its diplomatic ties with Taipei, a government official said.

### Currency Rates

THE Central Bank of Kuwait currency rates against the Kuwaiti dinar on July 18, valued for July 20, 1990.

Currency	Buying	Selling
US dollar	289.600	290.450
Sterling	528.050	529.950
Deutsche mark	176.150	176.800
Swiss franc	206.150	206.950
French franc	052.450	052.500
Italian lire	0002.400	0002.420
Japanese yen	001965	001975
Bahraini dinar	768.050	770.550
UAE dirham	078.800	079.100
Saudi riyal	077.200	077.500
Qatari riyal	079.500	079.850
Omani riyal	752.000	754.750

Asian currency exchange rates against Kuwaiti dinar:

Currency	KD	GOLD PRICES	KD
Indian Rs (1,000)	16.650	One kg. 999	3,385.000
Pak. Rs	13.400	One kg. 995	3,370.000
Sri Lankan Rs	7.260	22 kt. per gm.	3.500
Singapore dollar	160.500	21 kt. per gm.	3.450
Hong Kong dollar	37.400	18 kt. per gm.	3.400
Bangladesh taka	9.680	10 tola gold	396.000
Philippine peso	12.630	One ounce gold	110.000

Courtesy: Abdulaziz & Ali Al Yousfi Al Muzalbi Co.

■ The US dollar ended lower against most other major currencies in Europe on Wednesday. Gold prices also fell.

In London, the British pound rose to \$1.8205 from \$1.8115.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late Tuesday, were:

■ 1.6440 West German marks, down from 1.6455

■ 1.4085 Swiss francs, up from 1.4065

■ 5.5160 French francs, down from 5.5210

Gold fell in London to a late bid price of \$360.25 a troy ounce from \$361.25 bid late Tuesday.

In Zurich, gold fell to a closing bid of \$359.85 from \$361.50 bid late Tuesday.

# Lebanon

(Continued from Page 1)

was offered by Hezbollah's deployment in Jarjou," Wehbe told reporters in Sidon, provincial capital of south Lebanon.

Hezbollah had rejected the Palestinian deployment, and threatened to confront. A Hezbollah official warned that the PLO move would lead to "large-scale violence."

Hezbollah and Amal shelled each other over the disengagement force, running a 4-mile-long (6.5 kms) buffer that stretches from Sarba through the village of upper Koumine to Arah Saleem, just south of Jarjou.

The Shiite factions deployed all weapons in their possession, including howitzers, mortars of all calibre, and the multi-barrelled rocket launchers that fire 32 rounds a minute.

The clashes centred around a barren hill northeast of Arah Saleem.

Amal was trying to prevent Hezbollah from occupying the highlands from which it would control a three-mile (5 kms) road to the Nabatiyeh, the main Shiite town in south Lebanon.

The fighting is the fiercest in six months between the two factions which have been battling on and off for three years for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiites. The Shiite make up the country's largest sect.

So far, 1,112 people have been killed and 3,369 wounded in the inconclusive conflict.

Scores of cars packed with children, mattresses and suitcases could be seen speeding out of the region.

Ali Huseini said he was taking his wife and four children to "stay with relatives in Sidon until this is over."

"We don't care who controls what, just let them stop the shelling," Huseini said.

Communist Party leader, George Hawi, warned: "The current developments are expected to invite Israeli intervention at a time when Israel is looking for a pretext to strike at the PLO and re-establish control over south Lebanon."

"We call on the warring factions to stop fighting in light of the prevailing serious situation and we plead with our brothers in the PLO not to get involved further and real-



**Funeral**

Shiite Muslim women wait yesterday at the funeral of pro-Iranian Hezbollah militants killed in fighting in Lebanon. (Reuters wirephoto)

use that their deployment could lead to Israeli repercussions."

Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 to crush the PLO. Arafat's fighters were forced to evacuate the south and Beirut.

At least 5,000 hardcore fighters have infiltrated back into the refugee camps around Sidon, 25 miles (40 kms) south of Beirut.

Israeli warplanes flew reconnaissance missions over the embattled region yesterday, after the PLO deployed.

Agriculture Minister Mohsen Daloul, a Shiite, said in a statement broadcast by the Voice of the Nation that "this is just the begin-

ning." The warnings came two days after Israel's Air Force commander, Maj. Gen. Avihu Bin-Nun said he may launch a pre-emptive strike to eliminate reported Palestinian preparations for air attacks on the Jewish state.

Lebanese Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss met today with Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud Al Zu'bi.

Talks centred on the latest developments in the Lebanese situation and contacts were under way to guarantee establishing the proposed greater Beirut area, as a zone placed under the control of the

legitimate authority of President Elias Hrawi's government.

Talks also touched on efforts, created by Arab League tripartite committee envoy Lakhdar Al Ibrahim to implement the Taif accord, and the Lebanese factions' stance on the Lebanese government's recent national unity call.

The Lebanese premier also called on Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam later.

Hoss arrived in Damascus earlier today to brief Syrian officials on the latest developments on the Lebanese front.

## Belgium proposes swap of hostages and Arab prisoner

BRUSSELS, July 18, (AP) — A Palestinian fighter, serving a life sentence for killing a Jewish teenager in a 1980 bomb attack, will only be freed if four Belgian hostages in the Middle East are released, officials said today.

Under Belgian law, Saeed Nasser becomes eligible for parole on July 27 after serving 10 years for bomb attack in Antwerp.

"Given that the hostage takers demand the freedom of Nasser, we say he will be freed if the hostages are set free" and if justice officials agree to parole Nasser, said foreign affairs

spokesman Johan Swinnen.

The four Belgians are held by the Fatah-Revolutionary Council, the Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal. It said it took nine hostages aboard the yacht Silco, off the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip on Nov 8, 1987. It has released five of them to date.

Nasser was sentenced to death for a July 27, 1980, grenade attack on Jewish youths in Antwerp who were waiting for a bus to go to a summer camp in southern Belgium. One teenage boy died and 20 other people were injured.

Under Belgian law, death sentences are automatically commuted to 30 years imprisonment.

Nasser was arrested hours after the grenade attack and may be paroled as early as next week.

The Fatah-Revolutionary Council said earlier this year Nasser's release was a basic demand for the resumption of talks on the release of the four Belgians whom it accused of collaborating with the Israeli intelligence service Mossad.

## Newswatch

**Accused cleared:** An appeals court probing Italy's worst post-war terror attack acquitted all 13 defendants yesterday of complicity in a 1980 Bologna railway station bombing that killed 85 people.

The verdict, read to a stunned courtroom, took the investigation of one of Italy's most mysterious crimes back to square one.

After a 10-month hearing, the court acquitted four neo-Fascists sentenced to life in jail for the attack and nine other people convicted of lesser offences linked to the bombing.

The bomb devastated the station's waiting room on August 2, 1980, killing 85 people and injuring some 200. The four neo-Fascists acquitted on charges of having carried out the attack were Massimiliano Fichini, Sergio Picciafuoco, Valerio Fioravanti and his wife Francesca Mambro.

The former head of the powerful P-2 illegal Masonic lodge, Licio Gelli, and former secret service agent Francesco Pazienza, were acquitted on charges of calumny and laying a trail of false evidence to confuse investigators.

**E. Germany sheltered terrorists:** East Germany's communist leadership sheltered Palestinian terrorists, including the man believed responsible for the killing of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympic Games, the Interior Ministry confirmed Monday.

During the late 1970s, sections of the Palestine Liberation Organisation teamed up with other terrorist groups and sought to set up a logistical base in East Germany, said Wolfgang Elstner, the ministry's director of police.

Records of the Stasi, the former secret police force, showed Abu Daoud had gained entry to East Germany in 1978 and had travelled to the country several times since then, Elstner said.

Abu Daoud is believed to have planned the attack on the Olympic village in Munich, West Germany, which led to the deaths of 11 Israeli athletes during a shootout with police at Munich airport.

**Lawyer confident of award:** A maritime lawyer said on Tuesday he was confident that a Tacoma federal judge would order a Japanese steamship company to pay 21 Filipino seamen at least \$40 million in a wage dispute case.

Richard Dodson, a Louisiana attorney representing the seamen, said US District Judge Jack Tanner indicated in a court hearing last Friday that he intended to order the payment by the Inui Steamship Co., which is 25 per cent owned by Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd.

Reuters incorrectly reported on July 13 that the judge had already signed an order for the award. A final judgement is not expected before next month.

If it is approved, lawyers said the judgement will be the largest maritime wage award in US history.

**Executed for murder:** A male prostitute convicted of killing a would-be sex partner was executed by lethal injection in a Texas prison early yesterday.

Michael Derrick, 33, died six minutes after a deadly combination of chemicals was injected into his arm, said Texas Department of Corrections spokesman Charlie Brown.

Death was timed at 17 minutes after midnight (0517 GMT). Derrick was executed for murdering Edward Sonnier, 32, on October 11, 1980, a crime to which he confessed while in prison for robbery.

He said he stabbed Sonnier 15 times after the two went to victim's apartment and smoked marijuana, police said.

Sonnier was making sexual advances when Derrick, who told authorities he was a male prostitute, attacked him, according to the testimony.

**Attempt to smuggle cannabis:** A Scottish doctor's attempt to smuggle cannabis out of Britain was foiled by customs officers when they discovered a stash of the drug hidden in his sporran, a court heard yesterday.

The sporran, a fur-covered pouch worn by Scottish highlanders in front of their kilts, was worn by 48-year-old Doctor Robert Macaulay who was flying out of Heathrow airport in traditional Scottish dress.

"About seven grammes (0.2 of an ounce) of cannabis was found in his sporran," said Richard Pattison, customs and excise spokesman. The doctor, who said it was for his own use, was fined £125 (\$225) and £25 (\$45) costs.

**Hashish seized:** The Greek Coast Guard has seized two tonnes of hashish submerged in car tyre inner tubes off the western port of Preveza, the Merchant Marine Ministry said today.

The drug is worth well over \$1 million. It was packed in 49 inner tubes submerged at a depth of 10 metres (33 feet). They were dropped by an unknown ship which we have yet to locate," a ministry spokesman told Reuters.

The conservative government which won elections last April has said the curbing of drug trafficking was a priority. Greece is a centre for the transit of drugs to Western Europe from the Middle East and Turkey.

**New constitution:** A new constitution being formulated will allow a multi-party system and provide greater press freedom and presidential elections for the first time. But the ruling Baath Party will keep its dominant role in politics.

A copy of the draft 180-article constitution, being debated by the 250-member National Assembly, or Parliament, was obtained by the Associated Press Wednesday, (AP).

**Capital punishment:** In an effort to combat burgeoning bureaucratic corruption, Iran's parliament on Wednesday voted for a new law calling for the death sentence for the so-called "economic saboteurs."

Tehran Radio said the new legislation will empower courts to order the execution of defendants convicted of "grand" frauds, and for prison terms ranging from five to 20 years in the case of minor offenses. (AP)



**Madonna takes a run**

Rock star Madonna surrounded by miners takes a run in London's Hyde Park hours after arriving in Britain for a series of concerts. The star was followed by a posse of reporters and photographers and eventually her bodyguards had to jostle the journalists away. (Reuters wirephoto)



**A rebel**

A Liberian rebel fighter wearing a wig replaces the magazine of his automatic rifle on the battlefield outside Monrovia. He was shot dead by government soldiers later. (Reuters wirephoto)

Story Page 4

## Karrubi attacks US Congress message

NICOSIA, July 18, (AP) — Iran's radical Parliament speaker today criticized a letter signed by 162 US Congressmen, branding Tehran's hierarchy a "medieval dictatorship" and expressing support for the Iraq-based opposition.

The official media quoted Mahdi Karrubi as telling the Majlis, that "it is not known how foolishly members of the US Congress think or how far they are from realities."

The threat of the US Congress is not worth even an iota to us and the United States and its Congress cannot do a damn thing," the Islamic Republic News Agency and Tehran Radio quoted him as saying.

The letter was signed by 100 House Democrats and 62 Republicans. It was sent yesterday to Massoud Rajavi, leader of Mujahideen Khalq.

In their letter, the American lawmakers stated that "decisiveness is required to confront Tehran's medieval dictatorship."

They asked Rajavi "to assure your countrymen that we support their peaceful and democratic aims" of replacing the government. Karrubi referred to the mujahideen as a terrorist group.

The agency and radio, quoted him as stressing that "the fact that the United States is speaking of an organisation which has committed so many crimes gives us a feeling of pride and grandeur."

He said: "Our humiliation and contempt will be the day when the United States and its Congress speak highly of us and say, for instance, human rights are observed in Iran. On that day we must shed tears."

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## Actress Alison Leggatt, 86, dies

Brilliant portrayals

LONDON, July 18, (AP) — Alison Leggatt, an actress of London's Avant-Garde Movement remembered for brilliant portrayals of characters in plays by John Osborne, Harold Pinter and John Arden, has died, her family said today. She was 86.

She died in London on Sunday. No cause of death was stated.

Alison Joy Seetha Leggatt, whose career stretched back to 1924 when she won the gold medal at London's central school of dramatic art, became an actress against her well-to-do parents' wishes.

Her mother refused ever to see her act, considering the stage unsuitable for a well-bred young woman.

Her performance in Miles Malleson's "The Fanatics" in 1927 established her as one of the most promising theatrical newcomers of her generation.

Though never a romantic actress, Leggatt knew how to

wring tears and smiles from the audience. From portraying upper-crust young ladies, she branched into a wide variety of roles.

During the 1930s, she appeared in Noel Coward's "Cavalcade," playing a honcymooning wife on the Titanic just before the iceberg struck. She also toured in Coward's six one-act plays collectively entitled "Tonight at 7.30," playing six very different young girls and old women, and acted in plays by Clifford Bax and J.B. Priestley.

After World War II, she was Lavinia in T.S. Eliot's "The Cocktail Party" alongside Rex Harrison and Margaret Leighton, and Mrs Guzzard in Eliot's "The Confidential Clerk."

Leggatt appeared in Tyrone Guthrie's "Top Of The Ladder," and played the emotionally restrained landlady in John Osborne's and Anthony Creighton's "Epitaph for George Dillon."

## URGENTLY REQUIRED TRAILER DRIVERS

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## WARNING

G. Duinuan, Filipino, holding passport No. 493779, left her employer's house while still under his sponsorship. Anyone concealing information on her whereabouts will face legal action. Anyone knowing her whereabouts, should contact the nearest police station.

## Hubble wobble can be repaired

WASHINGTON, July 18, (UPI): NASA engineers expect to eliminate at least 95 per cent of the Hubble space telescope's blurry vision by replacing nickel-sized mirrors in a new camera to be installed in about three years, officials said yesterday.

Any remaining near-sightedness should be reduced to a "negligible" level by using motorised "actuators" to push or pull on Hubble's apparently flawed 94.5 inch (240 cm) primary mirror to make subtle changes in the mirror's shape.

"We feel... that we can get the error down to about 5 per cent of the existing error," said deputy project manager Jean Olivier. "If we can wind up with a residual uncertainty of 5 per cent, we think that's doable on orbit. That leaves us with a sufficient margin. We can take out twice that much with the actuators on the primary."

Hubble's primary mirror is mounted on 24 such actuators that can be commanded to push or pull as warranted to make changes in the shape of the mirror, which affects the focus of the optical system.

But project scientist Edward Weiler said the reduced light levels would offset the value of improving the telescope's focus.

"It's somewhat attractive but in general, the scientists will not want to risk going up and doing that," he said.

Hubble is equipped with five primary instruments, including two visible-light cameras that require a good focus to work properly.

Even before the telescope's launch, NASA was developing a more advanced "wide-field-planetary camera" to replace the one currently on board.

By modifying mirrors the size of a nickel in the replacement camera, Olivier said, at least 95 per cent of the primary mirror's spherical aberration can be counteracted.

The new camera is scheduled for installation during a space shuttle mission in 1993.

Hubble's primary optical system was never tested as a complete unit, which critics say would have revealed the problem well before launch.

Weiler said yesterday such a "full system end-to-end test" will be conducted on the replacement camera to make sure the corrective mirrors will work properly.

The electronic brain of NASA's Galileo space probe fired small rockets to fine-tune the craft's trajectory for a December flyby of Earth, the second leg of a three-year celestial billiard shot to sling the probe toward Jupiter.

## Aids prostitute won't be charged for selling sex

OAKLAND, California, July 18, (AP): A prostitute who allegedly told a news magazine that she continued to sell sex despite being infected with Aids won't be charged with attempted murder, authorities said yesterday.

"We never really wanted the attempted murder, but it kind of got laid at our doorstep," said Alameda County deputy district attorney James Casey. "For one thing, it's always nice to have a victim. And we just didn't."

Linda Kean, 36, a prostitute and self-confessed heroin addict, was scheduled to be released after admitting to a probation violation. She was sentenced to 23 days in jail, with credit for time already served.

Kean was arrested June 25 after being featured in June 25 Newsweek article about Aids. A caption with a picture of Kean posed provocatively against a lampost quoted her as saying she contracted the deadly virus from contaminated needles, but continued to sell sex.

She denied the comments, but Newsweek stood by the story. Kean, who has five previous prostitution convictions, had been jailed since her arrest on a March 1989 probation violation charge. Bail was \$1,500.



# Bush hopes for more global co-operation in space

WASHINGTON, July 18, (Reuters): President George Bush said yesterday he expects an outside review he has ordered to look at the broad challenges facing the troubled US space programme, including the possibility of more US-Soviet co-operation in space.

Earlier, NASA administrator Richard Truly said space shuttle flights would probably resume by Sept 1. The shuttles Atlantis, Columbia and Discovery

were grounded on May 29 because of concern over fuel leaks.

Nasa has pinpointed the sources of unrelated hydrogen leaks on Columbia and Atlantis and is now studying possible new flight schedules, Truly said.

Bush told magazine publishers at the White House, "As the whole world is changing — and it has dramatically changed — there may be some real opportunities to do more with the

Soviet Union, for example, or with other countries."

The outside review of the space programme's long-term future was announced on Monday by Vice President Dan Quayle, who heads the administration's space council.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has suffered a string of embarrassing setbacks, including the discovery of a flawed mirror in the

orbiting \$2.1 billion Hubble Space Telescope and the grounding of the shuttle fleet.

Quayle's office said the review was not an investigation of Nasa. "It's not a shake-up. It's a forward-looking rather than backward-looking study of how to carry out the president's goals in space and keep the United States first in space," a White House official said.

Bush, reaffirming his confidence in

Truly, said the outside review had nothing to do with a possible restructuring of the space agency, as has been reported.

Bush said he wanted Truly to call on "the best minds he can find to see how we're going to meet these next goals and meet them hopefully within budget."

He referred specifically to using the space programme to advance knowledge of the Earth.

Truly said he expected flights to resume between the middle of next month and September 1, but gave no details.

"As it turned out, it was just a terrible coincidence of two separate specific leaks — we have them both," he said in an interview on NBC television.

Nasa's troubles have fuelled congressional criticism of the space programme.

## PEOPLE AND PLACES



Fashion show

A model wears a French robe and empire waist line dress in precious embroidered jacquard of peach and gold tones presented by Andre Laug at the Autumn-Winter 1990-91 fashion show on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## World War II artillery Shell explodes, kills 5

PARIS, July 18, (AP): One of more than 2,600 World War II shells found in a small town this month exploded today, killing five people involved in trying to remove the shells, police said.

The shells were buried along a public road outside Epervan, south of Dijon in east-central France.

A 20-year-old man from the town was killed by a shell on May 21, and authorities began to investigate whether more shells might remain buried in the area.

On July 9, a major clearance operation was launched. Since then, according to town officials, 2,664 have been dug up and destroyed.

Few details were immediately available about today's explosion. Police said the victims included explosives experts working to clear away the shells, but no names were released pending notification of relatives.

One person reportedly was injured.

Most of the shells were in a concentrated area, and a security fence had been erected to keep the public away.

## Young finishes 2nd in primary

### Democratic nomination

ATLANTA, July 18, (AP): Andrew Young, seeking to become Georgia's first black governor, finished second in a five-way primary for the Democratic nomination, landing him in a runoff with Lt Gov. Zell Miller next month.

Miller, lieutenant governor for 16 years, rode an issue growing popularity — legalisation of a state lottery — into first place in yesterday's primary.

"Tonight I believe I can hear Georgia singing," Miller told supporters. "I hear Georgia singing a new song full of hope and harmony... a new song full of dreams and the determination to make them come true."

State Rep. Johnny Isakson, 45, a real estate executive, won nearly three-quarters of the vote against three challengers in the Republican primary.

With 89 per cent of 2,446 precincts reporting early Wednesday, Miller

had 380,925 votes or 41 per cent; Young had 275,457 votes or 30 per cent; and state Sen. Roy Barnes had 187,498 votes or 20 per cent. State Rep. Lauren "Bubba" McDonald had 58,974 votes, or 6 per cent, and former Gov. Lester Maddox, a one-time segregationist, had 27,962 votes, or 3 per cent.

Georgia law provides for a Aug 7 runoff between the top two candidates, unless one wins a majority in the primary.

Even before the last votes were counted last night, Miller warned Young to expect questions about his record as Atlanta's mayor. Miller had criticised Young for Atlanta's record as big-city crime capital of the nation during his last two years as mayor.

"I don't think it's in any way ungentlemanly for him to challenge my record," said Young.

WASHINGTON: President George Bush, after a hard day of heavy official reading, likes to curl up with a good book and says it puts him to sleep like sleeping pills.

Most of his reading is formal and heavy going," Bush said on Tuesday in response to a question about his reading habits during a White House session with magazine publishers.

He spoke of the ponderous matters he must go over each day, from business and foreign affairs to "the budget stuff" — documents related to the huge US budget deficit.

"What I do in terms of pleasure is to read... mostly novels," he said, adding he "wouldn't say they would be particularly weighty."

He mentioned *Bonfire of the Vanities* by Tom Wolfe — "which was pretty darn good" — and said he was "halfway through *Arthur Hailey's Network News*." (Reuters)

NACOGDOCHES, Texas: In the hoary riddle "why did the chicken cross the road," the answer is "to get to the other side." In this eastern Texas city, two ducks and two geese cross the road every day to get from their hotel to a fountain.

About 5 pm, a manager from the Fredonia escorts the birds safely through traffic.

The daily procession has quickly become a popular attraction for hotel guests.

"It's getting to where they'll wait in the lobby," said general manager Jim Bolles. "They get the biggest bang out of it."

Although motorists are sometimes stopped in their tracks, they don't seem to mind.

MERIDA, Spain: Spanish soprano Montserrat Caballe was slightly injured early Monday when a row of VIP seats collapsed while she was watching a ballet, throwing her and other audience members to the ground.

The temporary seats gave way just as Caballe, Spanish tenor Jose Carreras and the rest of the audience at Merida's Roman Amphitheatre began applauding a production of Mstislav Rostropovich's "Romeo and Juliet," conducted by the composer.

Caballe and Carreras opened the Merida Festival on Saturday singing in the Jules Massenet Opera "Herodiade."

Caballe fell more than 5 feet to the ground but walked away. She suffered minor injuries to her wrist and leg, a regional government spokesman said.

SEOUL, South Korea: Chung Myung-Won, conductor of France's national Paris Bastille opera orchestra, has returned home to perform. He said that while he stumbles in speaking Korean and French, music is universal.

Chung will conduct the Bastille Orchestra in five performances in Seoul July 18-21, the orchestra also will perform in Japan, Germany and Spain in 1990. The Korean-born Chung, who grew up in the United States, took over as head of the orchestra last year.

"When I held my first press conference in Paris, I couldn't speak French... only a few words and phrases," Chung told reporters. (AP)

GAFFNEY, South Carolina: Haley's comets, today's version of the 1950s band Bill Haley and The Comets that includes original bass player Al Rex, will kick off Guitars Gala II.

"Rock around the clock" propelled Haley and the Comets to the top of the pop charts in 1955, and guitar gala organisers hope the rock 'n' roll classic will put them in the record books.

UP to 1,000 musicians are expected here Thursday in an attempt to break the world's record for the most guitarists playing one song together for the longest time.

Last year, 465 guitarists showed up at the Peach Festival and played "Lique, Lique" together for 30 minutes. (AP)

## Pre-menstrual drug found ineffective

Reduction causes infant deaths

## Melatonin, SIDS linked

CHICAGO, July 18, (Reuters): The drug most often used to treat the emotional and physical pain millions of women suffer before the onset of menstruation doesn't work, researchers reported yesterday.

In what was described as the largest study of its kind, women given vaginal suppositories containing the steroid progesterone fared no better than women who received a placebo, researchers at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia said.

"The evidence from this study that progesterone suppositories have no clinically significant therapeutic effect greater than that of placebo for premenstrual symptoms should turn investigation to other treatments for this distressing disorder affecting the lives of many women," they said.

The study was published in this week's journal of the American Medical Association.

About seven million women in the United States experience disruptive pre-menstrual symptoms, the researchers said. From three to 15 per cent of all women suffer severe symptoms which can be disabling, experts have estimated.

Progesterone remains the most widely used treatment despite a lack of consistent scientific evidence of its effectiveness," the

study added.

In the study 168 women who had suffered from pre-menstrual syndrome for about eight years were given progesterone suppositories and placebo alternatively over a four-month period.

There was no significant improvement in irritability, emotional and physical distress between the times the drug was used and when the placebo was

administered, the researchers said.

Ellen Freeman, who led the research team, told Reuters that vaginal suppositories have been the most common method of progesterone treatment for pre-menstrual syndrome, although in recent years oral preparations have also come into use.

"The positive message we hope to send is the importance of testing other medications," she said.

An estimated 7 million American women experience pre-menstrual syndrome (PMS) to a degree that upsets their daily lives. Symptoms, which usually are most severe just prior to the onset of menstruation, can include irritability, nervous tension, headaches, mood swings, fatigue, breast tenderness and abdominal cramps.

## Wanted investors in search for eternal life

HOUSTON, July 18, (Reuters): A 75-year-old American biologist is looking for investors for a new and unusual business adventure — the search for eternal life.

Miller Quarles has put up \$100,000 of his own money and is looking for contributors to increase the prize for anyone who can find a way to double the current life expectancy of humans.

He is seeking other investors in the hope of spawning scientists and entrepreneurs to find a cure for old age.

"It's an investment in life extension," Quarles told Reuters yesterday.

He said he has begun contacting aging millionaires in hopes of finding others in the same boat. Although some have expressed interest, so far none have contributed to the "Quarles Prize."

"I have a happy life. I don't want to die and yet, according to life expectancy tables, my time is near," he said.

"I believe in this so much I put my money where my mouth is. But \$100,000 is all I could afford," Quarles said.

The Society for Curing the Old Age Disease, whose members now number 30, will monitor the prize money — placed in a savings account called

the "Longevity Fund" — and keep tabs on scientific progress, Quarles said.

There is a catch, however. The cure for old age must be approved by a panel of experts by January 1, 2000. If no one wins, the money returns to the investors, Quarles said.

"Old age is really a terrible death. If we can find a way to cure it, it will be one of the great discoveries of all time."

The only problem, he said, is what to do with all the world's people if they live longer. The answer, he believes, lies in a birth control vaccine now being developed by a local company.

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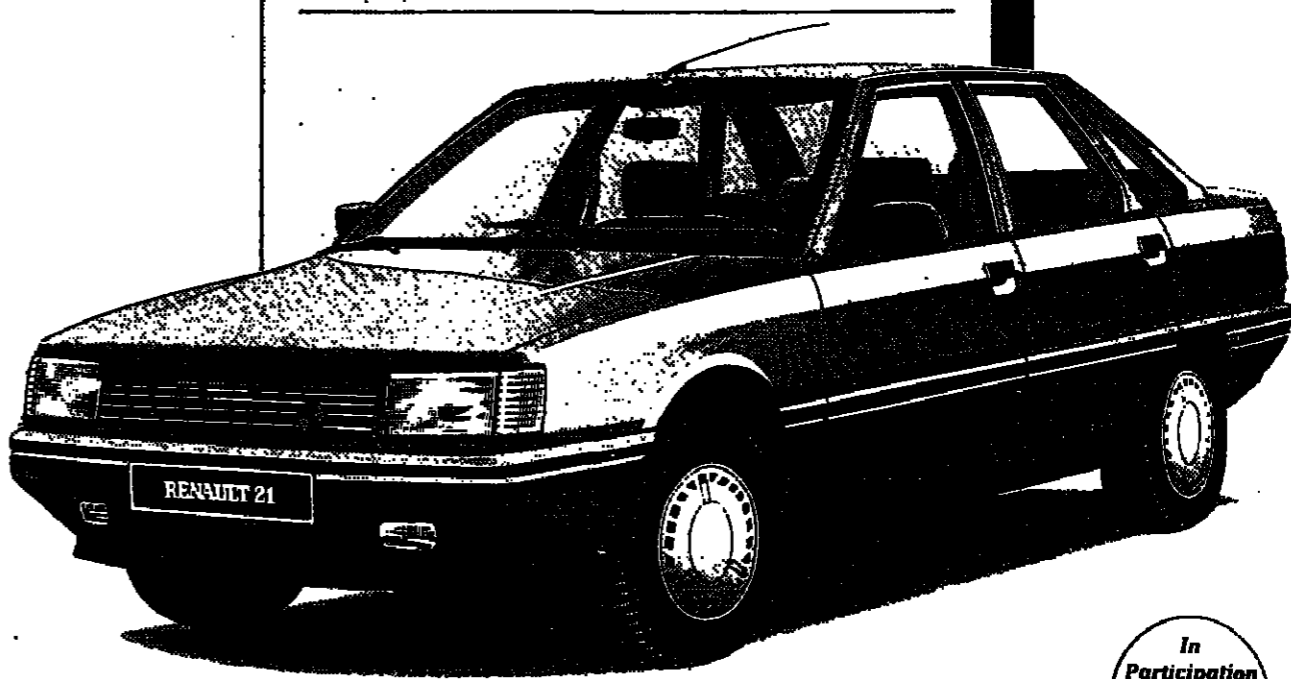
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## Summonses filed in Empire State fire

NEW YORK, July 18, (AP): The Fire Department has filed two code-violation summonses against the management of the Empire State building, claiming that defects in the alarm system slowed fire-fighters' response to a smoky fire that injured 38 people.

The exact amount of time that fire-fighters lost in getting to Monday's fire at the 102-story, 59-year-old Landmark Tower was not clear, according to John Mulligan, a spokesman for the Fire Department.

One summons, filed yesterday, charged that the build-

ing's alarm system failed to flash word of the fire to a central alarm station, which then would have notified the Fire Department, he said.

The department was notified of the blaze by telephone. It was not clear who made the call, Mulligan said.

The second summons, Mulligan said, charged that the building's fire safety director, who was supposed to brief arriving fire-fighters, was nowhere to be found when the first companies arrived in the lobby of the building.

# Refugees at embassies will stay there forever: Cuba

HAVANA, July 18, (Reuters): Cuba declared today that asylum-seekers sheltering at European embassies in Havana would have to stay there forever.

The Communist-ruled Caribbean island state has refused to negotiate the departure of groups of embassy refugees, touching off a diplomatic row with Spain and former ally Czechoslovakia.

Cuban President Fidel Castro had offered publicly to send "anti-social elements" to any

European country who wanted them, an official statement said.

But this would have to be done through normal immigration procedures — not through asylum at foreign embassies where refugees would have to remain as "permanent guests."

Cuba says the asylum-seekers are adventurers, common criminals and vagrants, and calls the embassy influx a planned provocation aimed at creating a false image of

insecurity in Cuba.

Spain, whose embassy has three refugees, has attacked the Cuban government's refusal to let them leave the country.

A fresh group of Cubans sought political asylum at foreign embassies in Havana on Tuesday, hours after a week-long standoff at the Czechoslovak embassy ended with the surrender of 12 other refugees.

The 12 gave up unconditionally and left the embassy after fighting among themselves and

holding five Czechoslovak diplomats hostage for more than five hours.

Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Vojtech Wagner arrived in Havana on Tuesday in a bid to defuse tension between the two countries over the episode.

Four more young Cubans sought political asylum on Tuesday at the Italian ambassador's residence in Havana while five others occupied the house of a Czechoslovak diplomat but had been refused diplomatic

protection.

The Foreign Ministry, rejecting criticism by Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, accused him of acting like a "pained colonial administrator" and said he was suffering from "historical amnesia."

"To his manifest ignorance of the situation in Cuba, Mr. Ordonez adds a scandalous lack of knowledge of international law," the ministry said in a statement released early today. The statement signalled a growing rift with

Spain over what it called an "illegal and unjustified" presence at the embassy of three Cuban refugees.

Underlining Cuba's refusal to negotiate their departure, the ministry statement said: "All those who enter or are received at European embassies and who try to use diplomatic immunity to transform themselves from delinquents into political refugees will become permanent guests in Havana of the governments in question."



Almost a charade

The father of a victim of the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am passenger jet over Scotland said yesterday that security was "almost a charade" at some airports. (shown above), whose 20-year-old daughter Flora was one of 270 people killed when Pan Am Flight 103 was blown up over the

town of Lockerbie, smuggled a fake bomb onto a British Airways aircraft to the United States two weeks ago.

He appeared at a London news conference yesterday for more money to be spent on security machinery that can spot the plastic explosive Semtex. (Reuters wirephoto)

## DEA official reports

### Cocaine in short supply

WASHINGTON, July 18, (AP): Drug traffickers are finding cocaine in short supply nearly everywhere in the United States, a top US drug official said yesterday.

Ronald Caffrey told the Senate Judiciary Committee that the shortage was the "first positive development in domestic wholesale cocaine availability and prices since the onset of the cocaine epidemic."

Caffrey, the Drug Enforcement Administration's deputy assistant administrator for operations, said cocaine prices had reached their highest level since mid-1985 and that purity levels had dropped.

The combination of high prices and low purity generally indicates a shortage in the drug, he said.

Some of the shortages, Caffrey said, may be due to stockpiling by cocaine traffickers and price gouging by those playing on fears of a shortage.

He said law enforcement efforts in the United States and Latin America have had a major impact on the drug's availability but acknowledged that it could be temporary.

One way the DEA knew shortages existed was because of its undercover agents' dealings with the drug traffickers.

**Escape embarrasses security:** Fugitive drug lord Pablo Escobar has again embarrassed Colombian security forces by evading a huge operation to capture him.

The police and army found themselves the butt of jokes and criticism this week for failing to capture Escobar, Colombia's most-wanted drug trafficker, after announcing they had him surrounded and that his arrest was imminent.

"Three previous announcements of the imminent capture of Pablo Escobar suggest Colombian authorities could suffer the same fate as the man who cried wolf," the respected weekly news magazine Semana said in its latest edition, referring to the tale of the boy who lied so often no one believed him.

Police had to acknowledge another error on Tuesday. Otoniel Gonzalez, detained last week and billed by police as number seven man in the Medellin cocaine cartel, was free on Monday when he turned out to be an innocent shopkeeper. (Reuters)

**Fujimori advisors quit:** The resignation of two of president-elect Alberto Fujimori's top economic advisers 12 days before his inauguration has caused speculation that the new government is moving toward a hard-line approach to fixing Peru's battered economy.

Economic adviser Adolfo Figueroa and Santiago Roca, head of Fujimori's government planning commission, sent a joint letter of resignation to the president-elect Monday.

Figueroa and Roca favoured a gradualist approach for Fujimori's economic stabilisation programme. Others around Fujimori are advocating economic "shock" policies that candidate Fujimori rallied against during the campaign. (AP)

**US officer summoned:** A US Army officer has been summoned by a court here to testify in connection with the slaying of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, the judge said Tuesday.

Judge Ricardo Zamora told reporters he has asked the Foreign Ministry to undertake the necessary procedures so that Maj. Eric Buckland, a US military adviser in San Salvador can testify in the case.

The Salvadoran military has been implicated in the deaths, raising an international outcry. Armed men in military uniforms roused the Jesuits and the two women from their beds at their Central American University campus home on the night of Nov 16 and shot them all dead. (AP)

**Nicaraguans mark 'victory':** Nicaraguans celebrated Tuesday the 11th anniversary of the day dictator Anastasio Somoza was ousted from power, chased out of the country by the Sandinista revolutionaries.

The event, which comes two days before the anniversary of the day the victorious Sandinistas actually took over the government and kicked out the remaining Somoza supporters, was celebrated in past years by parades, street parties and cultural events, with the red and black flag of the Sandinista Front flying throughout the country.

It is known in Nicaragua as the day of happiness, but this year with a US-backed, anti-Sandinista government in power, there was little for the Sandinistas to be happy about. (UPI)

**Nicaraguan envoy held:** A Nicaraguan diplomat has been indicted on charges he smuggled up to \$21 million worth of heroin from Thailand into the United States in the suitcase of a fellow diplomat, Brooklyn prosecutors said Tuesday.

Police in Japan Tuesday arrested William Tapia, former counsellor of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Tokyo, on charges he recruited fellow diplomats to run heroin from Bangkok to New York on two separate occasions in 1987, said US attorney Andrew Maloney, citing an indictment recently unsealed at US district court in Brooklyn.

Allegedly part of a ring of international heroin traffickers based in Hong Kong, Tapia, 47, arranged and paid for a Guatemalan diplomat, Jorge Rueta, to fly to Bangkok and pick up a suitcase filled with approximately 70 pounds (32 kg) of "China white" heroin, Maloney said. (UPI)

**Dr Kierski, who was freed on \$25,000 bond pending sentencing, evaded police July 3 at Greater Pittsburgh International Airport after authorities received a tip she may flee.**

The doctor was convicted May 4 on various charges, including conspiracy and acquisition by misrepresentation, for writing nearly 130 prescriptions for Percocet to a student nurse and another woman. (UPI)

**Mega Borg sold:** A Norwegian tanker that exploded and burned in the Gulf of Mexico last month has been sold for scrap to a German steel mill, a Houston attorney said.

The 886-foot (266-metre) Mega Borg, which threatened to break up and spill 38 million gallons (15 million litres) of crude into the gulf, was sold for about \$2.4 million, attorney Robert Klawetter said Monday. He said the buyers' identities have not been disclosed and that the sale was arranged through a ship broker in Gibraltar.

Klawetter said a contract was signed on July 13, and the new owners are to take possession of the vessel by Friday.

"The ship is going to be towed to Karachi, Pakistan, where it will be broken up for scrap," he said. "They anticipate it will take about two months to tow it to Karachi." (AP)

**Meeting**  
His Holiness Dimitrios, Archbishop of Constantinople, meets with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the United Nations in New York on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Rebels from the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) evacuate one of their men who was wounded during a battle against government soldiers at Sheffelin military camp outside Monrovia on July 14. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Liberia peace talks put off

Businessmen preparing to flee Monrovia: Doe isolated

MONROVIA, Liberia, July 18, (AP): A new round of peace talks aimed at ending the civil war was postponed yesterday as Monrovia residents scrambled for the last food during a lull in rebel attack on the capital.

The delay came as delegations representing four of the nations mediating the peace talks in the capital of neighbouring Sierra Leone were unable to get seats on commercial flights into the country. No date for another attempt was set. The rebel delegation also failed to arrive, according to Sierra Leone officials.

The talks, which involve delegations from Nigeria, Ghana, Guinea

and Togo, were suspended last week to permit rebel delegate Thomas Woewiyu to discuss proposals for ending the war with rebel leader Charles Taylor.

Foreign delegations returned to their capitals during the weekend for consultations.

In Monrovia, the few remaining Lebanese and Indian shopkeepers were clearing out their stocks and preparing to flee the city. Several said they would sell everything they had and hoped to be gone by the weekend.

Liberians remaining in the city stood in lines for hours yesterday trying to buy the little remaining rice and cooking oil.

Fighting around Monrovia has cut off food supply routes and public utilities.

Gunfire was heard in Monrovia on Monday, but it had died down on Tuesday. Heavy fighting was reported Sunday just east of this city of about 400,000.

Hundreds of refugees have been fleeing, and on Monday they converged on the only road still reported open.

Rebels have rejected a proposed ceasefire and creation of an interim government, unless it is headed by Taylor. An interim government would rule until elections can be held.

They also have rejected a proposal to send an African peacekeeping force to enforce a ceasefire.

However, the rebels' failure to capture the capital after weeks of fighting and reported fighting within their ranks could make them more amenable to compromise.

A European ambassador, who declined to be identified further, said that "there is no semblance of government, no military chief anywhere and (President Samuel K.) Doe is totally isolated."

Army Chief of Staff Lt Gen Charles Julu has fled the country, officials acknowledged Monday. He was reported to be in the United States.

A high government official, who said he had been held captive by the rebels for two weeks, said rebels were murdering members of Doe's Krahn tribe as well as the allied Mandingos.

"It was sheer anarchy," the official said of what he had seen during his captivity. "Every house is opened and looted of the cars and food in it. When they see your house, they chase you out with your family. If you resist, they kill you."

He said he understood that Taylor, a former Doe aide, was trying to prevent such abuses.

BUCHANAN, Liberia, July 18, (Reuters): "We are fighting for freedom," say the slogans daubed on the requisitioned vehicles of Liberia's rebel army.

But nobody seems to know how the rebels will



Liberia's rebel leader Charles Taylor directs an assault on Sheffelin military barracks on the outskirts of Monrovia from the shade of a mango tree just behind the front line on July 14. Taylor holds an AK-47 assault rifle equipped with a grenade launcher in one hand and a girl fighter stands guard beside him. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Norlega co-defendant

### Fugitive surrenders

MIAMI, July 18, (UPI): A fugitive indicted with former Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega surrendered to US authorities in Panama and was flown to Miami to stand trial on cocaine smuggling charges, it was reported today.

Ames Parades turned himself yesterday to drug enforcement administration agents at the US embassy in Panama City, the Miami Herald reported. He was immediately flown to Miami and jailed at the Metropolitan correctional centre, the same federal prison where Noriega is held.

Parades, the son of Gen. Ruben Dario Parades, is the seventh defendant to be arrested. A February 1988 indictment charged that Noriega and 15 others, including leaders of Colombia's Medellin drug cartel, conspired to smuggle tonnes of cocaine into the United States between 1981 and 1986.

Parades could face up to 95 years in prison. The indictment says Parades and his late brother, also named Ruben, smuggled cocaine with the help of Panama pilot Cesar Rodriguez.

govern this West African country once President Samuel Doe has been flushed out of his last stronghold in the capital Monrovia.

The only certainty is that rebel leader Charles Taylor, a US-educated former associate of Doe who received military training in Libya, will become Liberia's new president.

Taylor's advisers say the 42-year-old rebel leader favours free enterprise and is opposed to socialism. They also say that he has promised the United States, Liberia's main ally and aid donor, that he will hold free elections by the end of this year.

But Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) has not issued a single policy document since it took up arms against Doe's notoriously corrupt government last December.

And Taylor himself has avoided making any firm policy commitments in his remarks to the foreign media.

The NPFL has no political organisation outside its military command structure and Taylor personally takes all major decisions affecting the rebel movement.

He is aided by a small and poorly equipped secretariat, staffed mainly by high school students. His closest advisers include only a handful of university graduates, most in their 20s with no experience of government.

Some NPFL officials say privately the rebel movement will be unable to form an effective government without wider support from Liberia's veteran administrators and educated elite.

The Front has a list of experienced and qualified personnel who it is trying to spirit out of Monrovia to join the rebel cause, they added.

The expatriate owners of Liberia's iron mines, rubber plantations and logging concessions also worry that Taylor will find it difficult to rule the country once the fighting is over.

"It's like a dog chasing a car. What does he do with it when he catches it?" asked one expatriate manager visiting the rebel headquarters in Buchanan to negotiate a resumption of his firm's activities under a Taylor administration.

At the moment everything is improvised. The NPFL's estimated 15,000 fighters are given a food ration — mainly rice from a hijacked cargo ship — but no pay.

They have already eaten the entire goat population of the rebel-held area and fish from a commandeered trawler remains their only major source of protein.

The rebel fighters dress outlandishly in clothes looted from stores in captured towns and drive in crudely camouflaged taxis and pickup trucks requisitioned from private owners.

Most are villagers with only a few weeks of military training and although the NPFL has a well-defined military command structure, discipline is weak and the rebel commanders often have no more military experience than the men they lead.

Some of the fighters totalling AK-47 assault rifles and World War Two vintage Beretta sub-machine-guns are children who appear to be no more than 10 or 12 years old.

## Anti-Castro militant Bosch free after 14 years in US, Venezuelan prisons

MIAMI, July 18, (AP): Orlando Bosch, the convicted anti-Castro terrorist praised by some Cuban exiles as an anti-communist hero, began his first full day of relative freedom today.

Among the strict conditions imposed on Bosch by the Justice Department in exchange for his release from prison to house arrest yesterday was that he keep a visitors' log of everyone who comes into contact with him.

Bosch called the restriction "ridiculous"

and said he would get around the demand by hanging a banner on his door, telling callers to go away because "there are no informants living here."

Bosch, 63, has spent the past 14 years in prison in Venezuela and at a federal jail outside Miami.

"In my long history fighting for the freedom of Cuba, the government of the United States has built up a voluminous file against me titled 'terrorist,'" he said at a news conference after his release.

"Nonetheless, the government of the United States has never wanted to go into the depths of that file to understand that my persistence, my insistence and even my intransigence are the product of a past, a sinful past, wherein the sovereignty and the freedom of my country were put in the balance and the right to belligerence was sacrificed in order to liberate Cuba from its tyrannical oppressors."

Bosch claimed he had been unfairly imprisoned by the United States, but said

he wasn't bitter.

Bosch's attorney Hank Adorno refused to discuss details of the agreement hammered out with the Justice Department, but took pains to say his client has abandoned his violent opposition to the government of Fidel Castro.

"He has renounced terrorism in any form whatsoever as a means of political action and as a means to free Cuba from communism," Adorno said.

بوسك

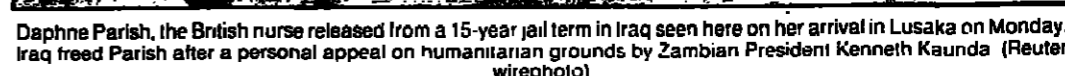
## 'I had moments of intense despair, gloom,' Parish tells of ordeal

The 53-year-old blond nurse, who was smiling and relaxed, told reporters at Gatwick that her time in solitary confinement had been the worst and she admitted that during her interrogation there were

In Lusaka yesterday, Parish, who was held for six months in jail in Iraq before her trial, said that neither she nor Bazofi did anything she considered illegal.

On Bazoff's execution, Parish said, "I am very sad, I don't know the full story." Asked whether the journalist had been her boyfriend, she replied: "No, he was just a

"The Observer ... feel rather responsible for this. They have no reason to do, but they do," Parish said.



## Glenda Jackson dismisses charges

"It seems to me that there is a push on the part of the government to make this country a mini-America, (with) the worst aspects of that society and few, if any, of its virtues."



"He's famous. Whether he's an actor or not is debatable. I don't consider him an actor. I'm antipathetic to all his policies," she said. Jackson, known for the fierce sincerity she

**"Awards are about the people who give them and not the people who receive them. They don't mean anything."**

**'Once America's greatest living psychiatrist'**

Menninger was once hailed by the American Psychiatric Association as the nation's "greatest living psychiatrist."

■ Songwriter Mikhail Matusovsky, author of "Moscow Nights" that became the Soviet capital's theme song, has died, the Tass news agency said yesterday. He was 75.

The Menninger Clinic, which he

**WASHINGTON, July 18, (Renter):** A tinge of xenophobia is appearing in Washington's corridors of power.

Confident

Bentsen, who has been seeking a prohibition for years without much success, blames the Federal Election Commission for permitting the present situation he denounces.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## S. Korean opposition renews threats

SEOUL, July 18, (UPI): Opposition politicians renewed threats today that they will quit the national assembly en masse to force the one-house parliament to be dissolved and replaced by a new one through general elections.

Kim Dae Jung, leader of the main opposition Party for Peace and Democracy, and Lee Ki-Taek, head of the minor opposition Democratic Party, met and agreed to a joint struggle against laws on the media and military passed by the government party.

Kim and Lee issued a statement and said the ruling Democratic Liberal Party "wiped out even the last chance of parliamentary politics" by ramming the controversial bills through the National Assembly last Saturday.

"The political outrage committed by the ruling party denied the reason of existence for the current National Assembly," they said.

The statement said all 70 lawmakers of Kim's Party and five legislators of Lee's group will submit resignations to the National Assembly on Friday and Monday respectively.

**Elections**

"Our two parties strongly demand (president) Roh Tae-Woo's regime that new parliamentary elections and local government elections be held at an early date at the same time, and that those bad laws illegally passed be corrected," it said.

Kim and Lee said they will get together on Friday with leaders of other anti-government groups to push a new unified opposition party. They also said they oppose a shift to a parliamentary cabinet system being pushed by the government party.

The disputed laws would place the armed forces under a unified command and restructure the nation's broadcast system.

Opponents have said the new command system could reduce civilian control over the military and the broadcast restructuring will place networks back under government control.

Government officials have said the change in the command setup was designed to meet the changing military situation in Korea and the broadcast laws were needed to meet demands for more varied information and to improve management of the existing networks.

**Resignations**

Four lawmakers including three Democrats and a legislator of Kim Dae Jung's party have already submitted resignations protesting the controversial legislation.

The opposition offer to quit the National Assembly must be approved by a majority of legislators when the assembly is in session. A resignation may be accepted by the assembly speaker when the assembly is not in session.

The government party has ruled out any premature dissolution of the National Assembly for new elections. Kim Young-Sam, No. 2 leader of the ruling party, has said the present National Assembly must sit until 1992 to the end of its term.

■ South Korea called North Korea today to immediately resume an inter-Korean lawmakers contact the North put off citing political developments in the South.

Chae Mun-Shick, chief Seoul delegate to South-North Korean legislative talks seeking to set the stage for a full parliamentary conference between the two Koreas, sent a telephone message to his North Korean counterpart Chon Gung-Chol, the government said.

Chae, replying to a Chon's Tuesday message notifying that a South-North lawmakers meeting scheduled for Thursday is being postponed, expressed surprise and disappointment at the North Korean move.

■ Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a letter to South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo proposing continued talks to promote relations between the two nations, a presidential spokesman said today.

The letter, in reply to Roh's letter sent immediately following the first Soviet-South Korean summit meeting in San Francisco on June 4, was received Monday through diplomatic channels, said Lee Soo-Jung, senior presidential press secretary.

■ Prosecutors said today that about 5,000 real estate speculators were rounded up in a four-month crackdown since early March.

Of those rounded up, 540 people were arrested and formally charged. About 4,000 suspects were booked for investigation and possible punishment, the prosecutors said.

They said prosecutor-general Kim Ki-Choon ordered a steady crackdown on speculation in land and houses.

## Cambodian opposition's recognition withdrawn

## US announces major policy shift

PARIS, July 18, (AP): In a major policy shift, the United States today announced it would withdraw recognition of the Cambodian rebel coalition dominated by the Khmer Rouge and open a new dialogue with Vietnam.

Secretary of State James Baker said the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia had made it possible for the administration to take an approach that many members of the US Congress favoured. Vietnam continues to back the Cambodian government it installed in 1978.

Under US pressure, the United Nations has awarded a seat each year to the coalition and denied formal recognition to the government led by Hun Sen.

Baker did not say the United States would now support Prime Minister Hun Sen in taking over the UN seat.

Baker's announcement reflected a growing conviction within the administration that the Khmer Rouge forces not only dominate the US-backed coalition with Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former Premier Son Sann, but are on the verge of taking over Cambodia.

"It is very important to do what we can to prevent a return to power of the Khmer Rouge," Baker said as he made the announcement on the steps of the US embassy.

"We want to talk to Vietnam because we think it has influence with the Cambodian government to create conditions for elections," he said.

Baker said the policy change would strengthen the hand of Sihanouk, who has been supported by President George Bush's administration as the legitimate leader of Cambodia.

Baker did not explain how he believes Sihanouk could benefit from a shift by the United States in Vietnam's direction.

For years, the United States backed the Khmer Rouge's partners in the insurgency against a pro-Vietnamese government in Phnom Penh. The United States argued that the Cambodian government was a puppet of Hanoi and, by extension, of the Soviet Union.

**Independence**

But many analysts have concluded that Cambodia, although it may be aligned with Vietnam, has demonstrated increasing independence. The departure of Vietnamese forces strengthened this view.

Baker made the announcement after a two-hour, 15-minute meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who said the two superpowers were now "much closer" in their approach to Cambodia.

Baker's session with the Soviet official at the US embassy was limited because Shevardnadze had a subsequent meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand.

Baker said he and Shevardnadze will meet again in the Siberian city of Irkutsk on Aug. 1. Baker will be on an Asian trip that will include a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Indonesia.

Talks between the United States and Vietnam could be the first step toward normalisation of relations two decades after the United States gave up its military intervention in Indochina and accepted the spread of communist control to what was then South Vietnam, a US ally.

However, Baker stressed that for now the talks will be limited to the subject of Cambodia.

## Relations

The United States has not had diplomatic relations with Vietnam's Communist government since the end of the Vietnam war in 1975. Washington has maintained a trade embargo and lobbied against multilateral lending to Vietnam.

Recently, a Senate subcommittee voted to cut covert US aid to the Cambodian resistance coalition. The House again approved open aid to the government, but opponents picked up more votes than ever before.

Senate Democratic leader George Mitchell of Maine called on the Republican administration to change its policy.



Saudi envoy in Taiwan

A special envoy from Saudi Arabia arrived in Taiwan Tuesday to meet Nationalist Chinese officials amid reports the oil-rich Arab nation will soon switch its diplomatic ties to the rival Beijing government.

Abdul Aziz Al Zamil, Saudi Arabia's minister of industry and electricity, flew in from Riyadh and will spend less than 24 hours in Taiwan before returning home, officials said.

Foreign Minister Fredrick Chien said Zamil's schedule may include a meeting with Nationalist Chinese President Lee Teng-Hui.

In the picture above: Al Zamil is greeted by Taiwan vice foreign minister. (Reuters wirephoto)

## China-Saudi ties in Sept

## Row over Quran resolved

BEIJING, July 18, (Reuters): China and Saudi Arabia are close to establishing diplomatic relations after settling the sensitive Taiwan issue and a hushed-up row over thousands of missing copies of the Holy Quran, diplomats said today.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen is expected to visit Saudi Arabia at the end of July to finalise an agreement which could lead to diplomatic ties between the two countries as soon as September.

A Western diplomat who asked not to be identified said the breakthrough in long-running negotiations between China and Saudi Arabia came last week with a visit to Beijing by Prince Bandar Bin Sultan, Riyadh's ambassador to Washington.

Taiwan and the disappearance of a container full of copies of the Holy Quran sent by Saudi Arabia's King Fahd to China were the main issues at stake.

Saudi Arabia is the last Arab country to have diplomatic relations with the nationalist government in Taipei which fled the mainland after defeat in the 1949 communist revolution.

Prince Bandar and the Chinese side agreed that Saudi Arabia would downgrade its embassy in Taipei to the status of a trade mission. Taiwan would follow suit in Riyadh.

Taiwan will not have to withdraw its embassy, just change its name," the diplomat said. "Trade ties, as long as they are not political, will be tolerated by China," he added.

Saudi Arabia is Taiwan's main oil supplier. Taipei's volatile stock market plunged last week on reports that Riyadh would soon switch its diplomatic recognition to Beijing.

More awkward to resolve during Prince Bandar's visit, the diplomat said, was the fate of thousands of copies of the Holy Quran, a gift destined for Chinese Muslims but which were confiscated en route in recent months by Chinese police.

"A whole container of Qurans disappeared. They were probably burnt by the public security bureau. The police considered them 'counter-

Baker said he did not know if all Vietnamese troops have left Cambodia. The rebels claim some troops remain disguised as Cambodian soldiers.

Baker said that Khmer Rouge control of the country in the mid-1970s, when up to 2 million Cambodians were killed or died of starvation, was "extraordinary tragic."

The Khmer Rouge are militarily the strongest faction of the tripartite rebel coalition fighting the Vietnamese-backed government in Cambodia.

## Chinese hijacker jailed for 8 years

BEIJING, July 18, (AP): A Beijing court today sentenced a man who hijacked a Chinese airliner to Japan last year to eight years in prison.

Zhang Zhenhai, 36, was sentenced by the Beijing Intermediate People's Court after a two-hour trial for the Dec 19 hijacking, said a Japanese embassy official who attended the proceedings.

Zhang was extradited to China on April 28 after the Tokyo High Court turned down his plea for political asylum in Japan.

Zhang said he took part in last year's pro-democracy movement, which was crushed by the army, and was fleeing political persecution.

China in the past has executed hijackers although there is no provision in the criminal code for such a crime. Japan returned Zhang to China after receiving assurances from Beijing that he would not face a penalty of more than 10 years in prison.

Zhang, who broke his pelvis during the hijacking, was wearing a plastic brace around his torso, and his left leg dragged when he walked into the courtroom, flanked by two policemen, said the Japanese diplomat, who asked not to be identified.

Three witnesses — a stewardess, a steward or purser, and the captain — were called to testify. Statements from two passengers and Zhang's wife, who presumably was unable to attend, were read.

The crew members said they were afraid for the passengers during the hijacking and described the atmosphere as tense, but said only a handful of the passengers knew that was happening. None of the 233 passengers on board the Beijing-Shanghai flight was harmed during the hijacking.

Asked under cross-examination whether Zhang physically threatened them in any way, the witnesses said he did not.

Zhang's wife, who has not been identified, said in her statement that she saw her husband hand a note, written on Chinese money, to a crew member but did not know what was written in it.

Zhang's wife and 13-year-old son, who also was on board, were returned to China shortly after the hijacking. The official Xinhua news agency's report on the sentencing said the two "have not been implicated in any wrongdoing."

Zhang, when given a chance to rebut, called the testimonies "lies." But he failed to give a sufficient answer when asked by one of the three judges to be specific, the diplomat said, adding that Zhang spoke for only one or two minutes.

■ As a high-ranking Japanese delegation visited China, the Foreign Ministry spokesman Tuesday said Japan needs to be "flexible" in its policy on contact with China following Beijing's crackdown on pro-democracy protests.

"We still regard restrictions on high-level contacts as important, but we should also be flexible in response to gestures on the part of China in the direction of an open door policy," Foreign Ministry spokesman Taiso Watanabe said.



Evacuation

Filipinos await their evacuation from Baguio with a statue of the Virgin Mary yesterday after the city was rocked by a 7.7 magnitude earthquake on July 16, leaving the city virtually isolated. (Reuters wirephoto)

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## Release not imminent

## Suu Kyi remains under house arrest

BANGKOK, July 18, (Reuters): Barring a surprise announcement from Burma's military government, opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi will begin a second year under house arrest in Rangoon on Friday, a symbol of her country's frustrated aspirations for democracy.

Since the opposition swept to victory in May 27 National Assembly elections the question of when the National League for Democracy (NLD) secretary-general will be released has been second only to that of when the military will hand over power.

The chief of military intelligence, Major General Khin Nyunt, last week gave a strong indication that neither was imminent.

"There has been pressure from foreign countries for an immediate transfer of power and the immediate release of Aung San Suu Kyi with threats of economic sanctions but we do not care about such threats," he said.

The petite former housewife, the daughter of assassinated independence hero General Aung San, was confined to her family compound overlooking the capital's Inya Lake on July 20 last year charged with inciting unrest.

She took her father's mantle during a popular uprising of August and September, 1988, against an authoritarian government that had led the once prosperous country into backwardness and isolation.

After troops crushed the movement and the army took direct control, the 45-year-old Oxford graduate became an outspoken critic of the junta and her courage and charisma won the hearts of her countrymen.

She was barred from taking part in the May 27 elections but even in confinement she was the opposition's most potent symbol, her image adorning campaign posters throughout the country.

Her fate is now unclear as the military stalls on handing over power, as is that of NLD chairman Tin Oo, who is in jail on sedition charges.

"It's a big issue. There may be some change in her situation. They (the junta) have surprised everyone before," said a Bangkok-based diplomat.

Tomorrow Martyr's Day, she will be allowed to hold a religious ceremony at her home to commemorate the assassination of her father 43 years ago.

Despite the omnipresent troops, the day could be marked by demonstrations by students eager to regenerate momentum against the military government.

Aung San Suu Kyi, meanwhile, spends much her time reading, having sold her piano to raise money. Her British husband, Michael Aris, and her two children have been allowed to visit her but diplomats are not. Representatives of the military council frequently hold discussions with her, however.

## Strict school rules

## Girl's death raises questions in Japan

TOKYO, July 18, (UPI): Fifteen-year-old Ryoko Ishida rushed to her high school's entrance, hearing a teacher yell that the iron gate would be slammed shut in exactly 10 seconds.

Ishida never made it to the classroom on the morning of July 6. Trapped between the gate and a gatepost, her head was crushed when a teacher rolled the heavy steel barrier shut to keep out latecomers.

"She should have come to school 10 minutes earlier," the school's principal said at a school assembly after the girl's death. "Let this be a time for you to rethink your behaviour."

The fatal accident has been taken up on television and radio talk shows and in newspapers in a nationwide debate over Japan's strict education system.

Japanese schools have a reputation for producing highly capable students, but at a cost many Japanese educators are beginning to question.

"(Our) system is economically efficient because it produces high-quality manpower," said Kaoru Okamoto, a spokesman for the Education Ministry. "But at the same time, the personality and flexibility of the student are being suppressed."

According to witnesses at the Takatsuka high school in Kobe, 300 miles (480 km) southwest of Tokyo, the teacher, Toshiko Hosoi, 39, pushed the gate shut when another teacher using a bullhorn reached zero in a 10-second countdown.

Hosoi allegedly kept his eyes focused on the ground while rolling the 18-foot (5-m) steel gate

shut and ignored the students pushing their way through.

The high school's teachers urged their gate countdown to emphasize the importance of being on time, school officials said. Students said there had been occasions when some of them were injured by the gate, but the practice continued.

"The reason for these rules is to teach children good behaviour," said Atsuo Nomura, the principal of Takatsuka high school.

Over the airwaves and in letters to newspapers, the use of strict school rules was generally supported but with a caution against taking them to extremes.

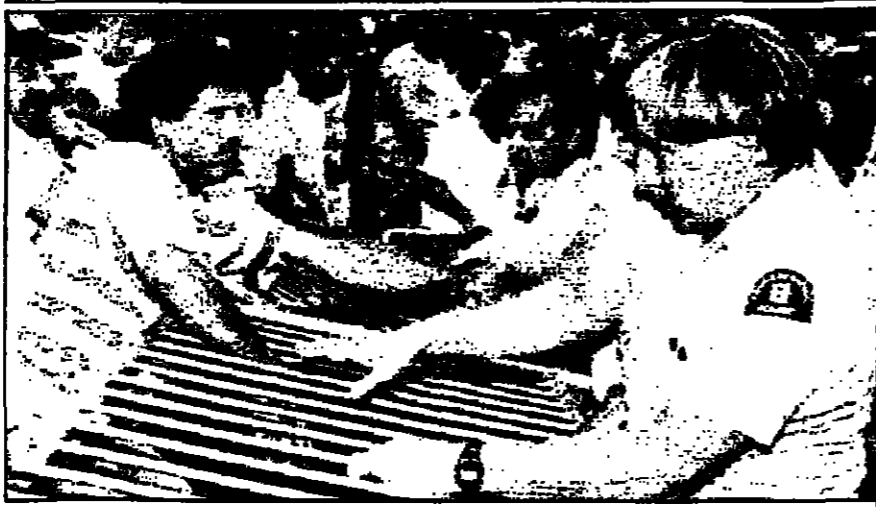
Japan is a country that places great value on being on time and many comments supported the actions of the Takatsuka high school teachers.

"Being late to school is a despicable habit," wrote Yoshitomo Egawa, a high school teacher, in a letter to the Asahi Shimbun newspaper. "It is the cause of all evil. Spoiling a student is not the way to show kindness."

Japanese youth are showing more signs of rebellion at a time when their society is undergoing rapid change because of its increasing wealth.

Teachers, who have been traditionally given utmost respect in Japanese society, now fear an erosion of their power.

Perhaps as a consequence they have increasingly resorted to corporal punishment to bring students in line.



Residents of Chateaugay, Quebec, pull barricades with police officers yesterday. The residents are becoming frustrated because of Mohawk blockade of the nearby Mercier Bridge which is a main bridge to the city of Montreal for the area. The Mohawks are blocking the bridge in support of the Mohawks involved in a land claim battle in Oka, Quebec. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Canadians rally for Mohawk Indians

## Troops on standby to intervene as talks resume to end dispute

OTTAWA, July 18, (AP): Natives and non-natives across Canada marched, joined hunger strikes and blocked roads Tuesday, hoping to encourage the federal government to mediate a dispute over a golf course that escalated into an armed standoff between Mohawks and police.

"We demand that the federal government become involved," Claudette Comendia-Cote, an Algonquin from northwest Quebec, told about 400 protesters on Parliament Hill. "It's their responsibility."

Meanwhile, negotiations resumed yesterday between Mohawk Indians and Canadian officials amid reports that armed forces were on standby and that vigilante groups were preparing to use force to open a bridge near Montreal.

Indians Affairs Minister Tom Siddon has left it up to the provincial government of Quebec to negotiate with Mohawks of the Kahnawake reserve near Oka.

The Kahnawake Mohawks have for four months blocked access to a golf course in Oka, a town 18 miles (29 km) west of Montreal. The Mohawks oppose a golf course addition on land they claim as ancestral territory.

Last Wednesday, police tried to storm the barricade with gunfire and tear gas. An officer died in the melee, but it has not yet been determined whether he was shot by Mohawks or by his fellow officers.

Native chiefs from across Canada were to meet at

Kahnawake reservation on Wednesday. They had been invited by Joe Norton, band council chief at the Kahnawake reserve, to discuss the armed standoff.

■ At least three Indian bands in British Columbia and one in Manitoba blocked roads or slowed traffic through their reservations.

■ About 30 mostly non-natives in Kingston, Ontario, blocked morning rush-hour traffic on one of the main bridges. When motorists began dismantling the makeshift barricade, protesters sat in front of cars. Police arrested eight people.

■ About 30 Micmac Indians in Nova Scotia are on hunger strikes, some vowing not to eat until the Quebec dispute is solved.



## NEWS IN BRIEF



## Landslide kills 6

Landslides triggered by downpours and lightning claimed six lives Wednesday and injured 12 other people, police reported.

The central meteorological observatory said up to 16.6 centimetres (6.5 inches) of rains fell overnight in Seoul and surrounding areas.

Police officials said two people were crushed to death by a landslide while sleeping in bed when their house in a central district was buried under tons of mud and rocks.

Two others in the house were rescued by about 100 government workers and police who dug through the debris for more than six hours.

The two were injured but were listed in stable condition, police said.

A third person died and one person was injured when a house at the foot of a hill in an eastern district was buried under mud and rocks, police said.

Nine people, seven of them in one family, were injured when lightning struck in western Seoul. One house was destroyed and winds of about a dozen houses in the neighbourhood were smashed from the impact, police said. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Europe

**Havel to miss festival:** Czechoslovakia's President Vaclav Havel, under pressure to avoid a meeting with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, will not open the Salzburg music festival next month as planned, the daily Lidove Noviny reported yesterday.

The paper, which published an open letter from its editorial staff on Tuesday urging Havel to stay away from Salzburg, quoted "well-informed circles" in a brief item saying he would not attend the festival.

Havel's office said it had no comment on the report. "The story is based on speculation that we cannot confirm or deny," presidential spokesman Michael Zantovsky said. (Reuters)

**Trefgarne may resign:** British trade and industry department is expected to lose another minister next week with the possible resignation of Lord Trefgarne as trade minister, it was reported in London yesterday.

The Times newspaper said that Trefgarne, leaving after 13 years as a minister, to pursue a business career.

His resignation, likely to come only a week after Nicholas Ridley's, is expected to be announced when the planned reshuffle by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher next week of middle and low ranking ministers.

However, some senior peers believe that Lord Trefgarne, aged 49, can be persuaded to stay if he is offered a higher position. (Kuna)

**Sea fish mystery unsolved:** Scientists have failed to discover so far what killed six million starfish during May and June in the White Sea, in the far north of the Soviet Union, the official Tass news agency reported yesterday.

It said government specialists concluded that toxic substances were responsible but ruled out poisoning from rocket fuel dumped by a Soviet submarine in December 1989, radiation and desalination. (Reuters)

**Mass graves of Moscow:** The KGB is searching Moscow cemeteries for the unmarked mass graves of people executed during the purges of dictator Josef Stalin, the Tass news agency said yesterday.

The report represented the first public admission by the secret police organisation that there were believed to be mass graves in the capital.

Others have been reported in more remote parts of the country.

An estimated 20 million people died in purges during Stalin's rule from the late 1920s to the early 1950s.

Under reforms initiated by President Mikhail S. Gorbachev, the Soviet press began reporting on the discovery of mass graves containing Stalin's victims about a year and a half ago. (AP)

**Forest fire under control:** Firefighters contained a two-day blaze yesterday that destroyed over 1,500 hectares of forest on Greece's popular eastern Aegean island.

Soldiers and civilians battling the blaze fanned by high winds, restricted it to a small uninhabited area near the centre of the resort island of Samos within sight of the Turkish coast, said Vasso Delakaki, a prefecture spokeswoman.

Initial estimates showed the fire had destroyed more than 1,500 hectares (3,750 acres) of mountain pine woods, olive groves and scrubland, Delakaki said. (AP)

**Italy to take drought action:** Italy is taking emergency measures to counter a dry cycle which could bring high temperatures and low rainfall for the rest of the decade.

Southern farmers will receive special help to save their crops from being devastated, officials said yesterday.

At a meeting on Tuesday night, agriculture, civil protection and budget ministers agreed the government would decide which regions needed most help to deal with the effects of four years of inadequate rainfall.

Average rainfall has dropped by up to 70 per cent in some areas since 1986. Weather officials believe the dry spell could last through the 1990s. (Reuters)

## Carla Hills remark

## Tokyo official denies ill will

TOKYO, July 18, (AP) A senior official of the ruling party, accused of making sexist remarks about US trade representative Carla Hills, said today his remarks were intended to bolster the US official's image in Japan.

Koko Sato, deputy secretary-general of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, was quoted earlier this week by some Japanese newspapers describing Hills in condescending terms in his remarks on a two-hour conversation he had with her during a summit last week in the United States.

The mass-circulation Mainichi Shimbun quoted Sato as saying of Hills, "she is charming and cute, but just a little old."

The Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's largest newspaper, also quoted Sato as saying, "She was delighted when I praised her husband. She is a woman after all."

Today, Sato said he was trying to combat the prevalent image of the US trade representative in Japan as being tough, cold and even scary.

"I was just saying that when (we) switched from talking about business to talking about (our) families, she would suddenly become a housewife and mother," he told the Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"That's why I said it," he said. "When I said woman, I meant a family person."

"Many seem to be afraid of Hills, but if you talk to her, you realise she is a wise, fine person," he said.

Sato also said he had complimented Ms. Hills, 66, on seeming quite young.

**Japan should improve:** Japan should improve the quality and the quantity of its aid to developing nations, an Economic Planning Agency advisory panel said in a report released on Wednesday.

It should increase the number of grants it gives developing countries as a proportion of overall official aid, the report said.

In 1988, grants made up 46.6 per cent of Japan's total official development assistance, compared with an average 78.4 per cent among 18 other donor nations in the same period, an agency official said. (Reuters)

**Christian party wins:** The Christian-controlled party in Sabah, seeking more rights from the central Malaysian government, swept to power on Wednesday with a thumping election majority in the state on Borneo Island.

One Bersatu Sabah Party (BBS) was returned to power for a third term when final results on

Nikolai Todorov listens during the Bulgarian parliament session. (Reuters wirephoto)



Nikolai Todorov listens during the Bulgarian parliament session. (Reuters wirephoto)

Wednesday showed it took 36 of 48 elected seats after a bitterly contested but violence-free poll, which was clearly divided along ethnic lines.

The rival Muslim-based United Sabah National Organisation swept the remaining 12 seats. Five other parties failed to win any seats in the election, which had pitted a record 253 candidates in the timber-rich state, dubbed Malaysia's "Wild East" for its byzantine and sometimes violent politics. (Reuters)

**Australia to recruit:** The New South Wales Minister for Police Ted Pickering Wednesday supported plans to recruit police officers from Hong Kong, most of whom would be assigned to areas with a high proportion of Asians.

The move follows warnings of an impending "war" between gangs of Asian youths.

John Newman, the member of Cabramatta, a western Sydney Asian ghetto, Wednesday warned about such a "war" and has called for an increase in the number of Asian-born police officers in the area.

The proposal follows an increase in requests for information about jobs received at Sydney police headquarters from serving and former Hong Kong police officers. Many wish to migrate to Australia, Pickering said Wednesday.

Among the requests is an inquiry from a former senior inspector who worked extensively with the Hong Kong version of the New South Wales Independent Commission against corruption. The inspector is also an expert on Triads, the powerful Mafia-style gangs. (UPI)

**Hong Kong enforces:** The Hong Kong government on Tuesday enforced stiffer regulations on tourists who purchase ivory in the British colony, the world's largest trader of ivory.

The new law requires tourists to obtain export licences for all ivory purchases. The regulations replace legislation that allowed tourists to export up to five kilograms (11 pounds) of ivory without a licence.

Local residents, however, can still freely export up to the five-kilogramme limit as long as the items are declared as "personal effects," according to a statement issued by the government.

The exemption was attacked by a conservation group, which said it could be exploited by unscrupulous traders to continue ivory exports.

David Melville, conservation officer from the World-wide Fund for Nature's local branch, described the exemption as a loophole in the law and called on the Hong Kong government to scrap the provision. (AP)

**Singapore entry denied:** More than 1,000 foreigners, mostly Malaysians, were tested positive for drugs by the instant urine testing machine at Woodlands checkpoint and denied entry into Singapore last year, it was reported in Kuala Lumpur Wednesday.

The report said the number is expected to increase this year because in the first six months, 900 foreigners had been banned from the island.

The number of Singaporeans tested positive by the US 35,000 ETS urine toxicology analyser has decreased.

Last year, 121 Singaporeans failed the test.

The machine can analyse a drug suspect's urine within two minutes. It can also tell whether the drug consumed was heroin, morphine, opium or cocaine, the report said.

The machine was installed at Woodlands in 1988 to combat the problem of "ant-traffickers" who smuggled small doses of drugs into Singapore. The number has since dropped significantly. (Kuna)

**Zambia referendum:** Authorities on Tuesday announced rules for a referendum on the future of Zambia's one-party system and lifted a ban on opposition campaigning.

Judge Mathew Ngulube, head of the government-appointed referendum commission, said campaigning will be allowed from July 23 as long as language was "sober and temperate" and did not defame individuals.

The secret ballot scheduled Oct 17 will ask voters "if they support the reintroduction of a multi-party system," he said. (AP)

**Zaire approves:** Zaire's one-party Parliament on Tuesday approved the creation of a limited multi-party system.

The law, proposed by President Mobutu Sese Seko, allows three legally recognised political parties in the central African country.

It was passed by 264 votes to 27 with 10 abstentions. (Reuters)

**Savimbi in Rabat:** Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi was in Rabat on Tuesday for talks with a top Portuguese official and King Hassan on moves to end Angola's 15-year-old civil war, the Portuguese news agency Lusa said.

It reported from Rabat that the Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) chief had been in Morocco since Sunday.

Unita representatives in Lisbon were not available for comment, but Portuguese officials said Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Jose Manuel Durao Barroso flew to Morocco on Tuesday to meet Savimbi. (Reuters)

**Gold mine clash, 12 hurt:** Eleven black miners and a company security officer were injured in a clash at a South African gold mine near the town of Welkom, the mine owners said on Tuesday.

The fight broke out on Monday at St Helena gold mine in the Orange Free State after a trade union meeting about retrenchment terms in the face of a gold price slump, mine owners Gencor Ltd and union officials said. (Reuters)

**Pope names new archbishop:** Pope John Paul II has named Lawrence Patrick Henry as archbishop of the Metropolitan Church of Cape Town, South Africa, the Vatican announced Tuesday.

Henry, 55, was up to now auxiliary bishop and archdiocesan administrator in Cape Town, where the post of archbishop fell vacant some time ago. Vatican sources said the new archbishop is classified as "coloured" in South Africa. (UPI)

Government officials could not be reached to comment on the charge.

Monday, Ceausescu again denied charges that he ordered security forces to fire on protesters during the December revolution that ousted his father. Ninety-two people died in Sibiu during the week of Dec 21.

During his first appearance two months ago, Ceausescu, 39, said the order to crush the uprising was a throwaway after-dinner remark that he retracted when he sobered up. He maintained again Monday he did not give an order to shoot the anti-government protesters.

Despite his reputation as an alcoholic

playboy and a gambler, public sympathy for the younger Ceausescu has grown since his first appearance in court in May when he cracked jokes and jumped from his seat to question witnesses.

Romanian President Ion Iliescu held talks with student leaders for the first time yesterday to discuss last month's political violence.

Iliescu, whose appeal last month for help to crush anti-government protests led to a rampage by miners in the capital, met the students for more than two hours at the Cotroceni presidential palace.

## Serbia pledge to stay firm

## Opposition groups mark Chetnik memorial day

BELGRADE, July 18, (AP) Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, closing the founding congress of the republic's Socialist Party, yesterday pledged that the renamed communists would not swerve from their course.

In a bid to discard their conservative image, Serbia's ruling communists merged with a sister organisation and renamed themselves the Socialist Party.

Milosevic, who also is Serbia's president, was elected leader of the new party. It seeks to unite all left-wing groups in the largest Yugoslav republic.

"The left should not fear that this party will swing toward the right, while the right should not hope that this party will come closer to them," Milosevic said.

In the weeks preceding the merger between the Communist Party and the republic's Socialist Alliance, a communist-run mass movement, Serbia's still illegal opposition denounced the move as a sham designed to keep the communists in power as long as possible.

The growing opposition, which has demanded free elections in the republic, says the merger gave the communists control of the Socialist Alliance's substantial assets and media it currently controls.

Two Serbian opposition groups, in another show of dissent, yesterday scheduled a memorial mass throughout the republic for Gen. Draza Mihajlovic, a former leader of royalist Chetnik guerrillas who fought com-

munist partisans in World War II.

About 2,000 anti-communists hailed Serbian Chetnik Movement President Vojislav Seselj, who praised the general as a "hero and martyr," and denounced the Serbian communist regime.

The rally also cheered Mirko Jovic, the leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement, another nationalist party, and sang Serbian nationalist songs.

Police tried on two occasions to stop the rally on grounds that it was not officially approved, but the gathering ended without incidents.

Mihajlovic, depicted by the victorious communists as a war criminal, was executed after a brief trial on July 17, 1946.



Rescue workers try to save passengers trapped in the wreckage of a bus yesterday which careened off the road between Durban and Inanda black township after a minibus it was following was ambushed by gunmen. At least 26 people were killed in the crash. (Reuters wirephoto)



Emergency workers tend the wounded yesterday after a bus crash outside Durban which was caused when gunmen ambushed the vehicle. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 'De Klerk bringing hope for the future'

JOHANNESBURG, July 18, (UPI) British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher believes President Frederik de Klerk is engineering a racial settlement in South Africa and bringing hope for the future, according to an interview today in Johannesburg newspaper The Star.

Thatcher told the Star's editor-in-chief elect, Richard Soysa, De Klerk "has created an entirely new situation in South Africa... I think that is a remarkable achievement" and "I now see light at the end of the tunnel in a way I certainly could not before."

She also praised black leader Nelson Mandela for his "great courage" and said he is now as important as De Klerk in designing a non-racial South Africa.

The British leader, De Klerk's firmest foreign supporter, said the president's apartheid reforms, launched February, have "created conditions in which you can work out agreement on a new constitution, and that gives us great hope for the future."

But Thatcher warned that South Africa will only lose its pariah status and be accepted into the world community "once a new, democratic constitution is in place and the remaining apartheid legislation is removed."

Mandela was due to return home today after a 45-day tour of 14 nations on three continents, and Thatcher said of her meeting with him earlier this month, "I am sure he is genuinely committed to negotiations."

Only a world-wide ban on credits for imports would badly hurt South Africa, the US general accounting office said.

"The effect on South Africa of a unilateral US ban would be limited, though it might reduce the volume and value of US exports to South Africa," according to the report.

US law already provides sanctions against South Africa because of its race policies.

The report was made June 7 to Sen. Paul Simon, chairman of the subcommittee on Africa in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and distributed more widely in July.

## Gunmen ambush bus

## 28 killed in black violence

JOHANNESBURG, July 18, (AP) Gunmen ambushed a bus in an area hit by black factional violence today, shooting the driver and sending the vehicle out of control, killing at least 28 people and injuring 56, police said.

A police spokesman, who declined to be identified, said gunmen fired at the bus and a van in pre-

darkness at Inanda in Natal province. The bus driver was hit by a bullet and the vehicle plunged down an embankment into a river, he said.

The victims were all black, he said. Rival black factions had been fighting in the area a few hours earlier, the spokesman said. Police were hunting for the attackers, but had made no arrests, he said.

Natal has been hit by bloody fighting in recent years between the African National Congress, which is the main black nationalist group, and Inkatha, a conservative, Zulu political movement. The two groups oppose apartheid, but differ over plans for a future South Africa.

A local journalist, who asked not to be named, said the fighting was between ANC and Inkatha factions. The two groups had been shooting across the road at each other when the van and bus were hit, she said.

Police also said today that two men were stabbed to death in black factional violence in a separate incident in Natal.

A police patrol wounded two men when it was attacked by blacks with guns and rocks yesterday near port Shepstone in Natal, police said.

At least 4,000 people have died in the Natal violence since 1986. In other developments, a bomb believed planted by right-wing extremists exploded next to a building just minutes after a protest against military conscription was moved to another site, police said today.

The blast late last night in the southeast city of East London damaged a wall in a building where a radical group was to have held a meeting, but there were no reports of injuries, police said.

The end conscription campaign, which opposes compulsory military service, had just moved a meeting of about 50 people to another building because more people than expected had attended. Several nearby buildings were also damaged, police said.

Police experts said the bomb was a powerful "military-type device."



African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela answers questions on the "corridor" of the Belra as he and his wife are accompanied by the chairman of the port on a one day tour of the area on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Mandela hopes to resume talks

## Back from tour

JOHANNESBURG, July 18, (AP) Nelson Mandela today said his African National Congress movement would not agree to a ceasefire until the South African government meets several conditions.

Mandela, returning from a six-week tour of 14 nations that brought him international acclaim, said he hoped to see President F.W. de Klerk as soon as possible to resume negotiations on ending white minority rule.

He said the ANC would not end its armed struggle until the government meets ANC demands, including the release of some 3,000 prisoners convicted of political crimes.

"As soon as the government removes the obstacles to the negotiations, we are prepared to consider the question of the end of hostilities," he told an airport news conference after returning to South Africa.

The ANC says it also wants the government to allow 20,000 exiles to return.

A small group of supporters sang "happy birthday" dear leader, to mark Mandela's 72nd birthday today. It was the first birthday he had spent in freedom after 27 years in prison.

Mandela, looking tired after his long tour, said his foreign trip had been a major success and generated new support for South

Africa's 30 million blacks. He later told some 200 cheering supporters outside the airport that millions around the world were supporting the fight to destroy apartheid, South Africa's system of racial segregation.

Mandela raised millions of dollars for the ANC, and said he was successful in persuading foreign governments to maintain economic sanctions against South Africa until the government repeals more apartheid laws.

Discussing events in South Africa in his absence, Mandela said the government's decision to lift a state of emergency in June for most of the country was not sufficient.

He said the ANC wanted a total lifting of the state of emergency, even in Natal province, where black factions have been locked in a four-year power struggle that has killed more than 4,000 people.

"We insist on the total removal of the state of emergency in the whole country," he told reporters.

Mandela said he hoped to meet De Klerk in the next few days, but gave no specific date. He said the only thing he will discuss with De Klerk is when to resume negotiations on ending apartheid and giving blacks political rights.

## Soviets apply for S. African visas

HELSINKI, July 18, (Reuters): Over 6,000 Soviet citizens have applied in Finland to emigrate to South Africa since February, Ambassador Johannes Lotter said today.

The unprecedented wave of applications has taken Pretoria's embassy in Helsinki by surprise and dismayed the opposition African National Congress (ANC).

Lotter said applications had come from all over the Soviet Union including the Baltic republics, Moscow and Azerbaijan.

"What is amazing is that they choose to apply to this mission," he said. "There had previously been no applications."

Lotter said 90 per cent of letters were from unqualified people with little chance of acceptance. Most seemed to be applying for economic

## Nicu Ceausescu may not live to see verdict

SIBIU, Romania, July 18, (UPI) A defence lawyer for Nicu Ceausescu, the son of the executed Romanian dictator on trial for genocide, says his client may not live to see the verdict because he is suffering hepatitis and other ailments.

Ceausescu, looking gaunt and haggard in the second session of his long-delayed trial on charges of committing genocide, listened yesterday as witnesses testified about his actions in the Transylvanian city of Sibiu where he was communist party boss.

Public sympathy for Nicu Ceausescu has been growing as the trial progresses and prosecutors say they are worried their

case may be undermined.

"The way the trial is going, it looks like he'll get off scott free," said prosecutor Capt. Nicu Aron.

"He's so ill he may not live to the end of the trial," said defence lawyer Paula Jakob after yesterday's session.

The 39-year-old Ceausescu told a local newspaper he is suffering from hepatitis and chronic cirrhosis of the liver and claimed he is being refused medical treatment in prison.

"I am beyond medicine now and anyway they refuse to treat me," Ceausescu told the Tribunal newspaper in an exclusive interview from prison.

Government officials could not be reached to comment on the charge.

Monday, Ceausescu again denied charges that he ordered security forces to fire on protesters during the December revolution that ousted his father. Ninety-two people died in Sibiu during the week of Dec 21.

During his first appearance two months ago, Ceausescu, 39, said the order to crush the uprising was a throwaway after-dinner remark that he retracted when he sobered up. He maintained again Monday he did not give an order to shoot the anti-government protesters.

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playboy and a gambler, public sympathy for the younger Ceausescu has grown since his first appearance in court in May when he cracked jokes and jumped from his seat to question witnesses.

Romanian President Ion Iliescu held talks with student leaders for the first time yesterday to discuss last month's political violence.

Iliescu, whose appeal last month for help to crush anti-government protests led to a rampage by miners in the capital, met the students for more than two hours at the Cotroceni presidential palace.

# Iraq, Iran moving closer on border treaty: Rafsanjani

NICOSIA, July 18, (Reuters): Iran and Iraq have narrowed their differences over a border treaty which was one of the main causes of their eight-year war, Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani was quoted yesterday as saying.

Tehran Radio said Rafsanjani told a gathering of senior Muslim clerics on Monday night that a rise in oil prices and prospects of greater co-operation in the Gulf region were

benefits of the new mood of peace between Iran and Iraq.

"The talks have been useful so far and the two countries are expected to move towards peace," the radio quoted Rafsanjani as saying in reference to new negotiations which followed a peace initiative by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"The Iraqis' attitude towards peace has become more positive. The two countries'

envoys in Geneva are now holding talks and the two countries' viewpoints have come closer within the framework of the Algiers agreement."

Hussein tore up the 1975 Algiers agreement, which gave Iran sovereignty over the eastern half of the Shatt al-Arab border river, just before the Gulf war erupted in September 1980.

Iraq, which has called for restoration of

Arab control over the whole waterway, wants an early clearing of the Shatt which is its main outlet to the Gulf.

Tehran, demanding that Iraq withdraw its troops from border areas, insists that the treaty is inviolable and its provisions should govern any dredging of the Shatt.

Regional press reports said Hussein had indicated he was willing to accept the border accord in the letter he sent Rafsanjani in May

proposing the two meet to discuss peace.

The Iraqi letter, followed by an Iranian reply and another from Baghdad, broke the deadlock in UN-mediated peace talks which followed the August 1988 ceasefire.

The foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq met in Geneva two weeks ago, for the first time talking directly to each other rather than speaking through UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar as in previous meet-

ings. In the ice-breaking encounter, Iran's Ali Akbar Velayati and Iraq's Tariq Aziz did not discuss substantial matters, leaving them for their aides to thrash out in Geneva.

Rafsanjani said Iran wanted to establish peace by helping Perez de Cuellar to implement Security Council Resolution 598. The only parts of the resolution so far implemented are the ceasefire and its policing by UN observers.

## Soviets urge US to influence Israel

'Arabs have legitimate concern at Jewish influx'

PARIS, July 18, (UPI): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, saying "the Arabs have a legitimate concern," called on the United States today to use influence with Israel to stop the settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied Arab territories.

Speaking after holding two hours and 15 minutes of talks with US Secretary of State James Baker in Paris, the Soviet foreign minister said he had asked Baker that Washington "use all its authority to exert an adequate influence" so that new immigrants from the Soviet Union are not installed in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

"We are presenting no more obstacles" to the emigration of Jews

well but the encounter was cancelled earlier this week on grounds Levy recently suffered a heart attack.

But some diplomatic sources have speculated Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was against Levy meeting with Baker at a moment when the Shamir government has no obvious answers to US concern over the stalled Middle East peace process.

"Shamir told Levy he could go to Paris to see Baker but that he need not bother coming back if he did so," quipped one source.

Last week Levy told visiting American Jewish leaders that he hoped talks with Baker would lead to a breakthrough in the peace process. But a Foreign Ministry spokesman in occupied Jerusalem said Levy's health forced him to postpone any meeting until at least August.

Shevardnadze also replied to a question on Afghanistan. "The Afghan government has a new plan that includes very important elements for national reconciliation, free elections under the aegis and control of the UN and many other things," he said.

Levy will ask visiting leaders of the European Community to convince Arab states that Soviet Jewish immigration is not a threat to their security and to make peace with Israel, Israeli officials said today.

The government official also said Israel would not stand in the way of EC efforts to provide additional aid to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but would not allow the establishment of an EC consulate or other high-level mission in the territories.

The remarks were made in advance of next Monday's visit to Israel by the so-called EC troika, which consists of the past, present and future presidents of the EC foreign ministers council — Ireland, Italy and Luxembourg.

After meeting with Levy, and perhaps Shamir, the Europeans head to Tunis on Tuesday for talks with Arab League officials.

A ranking Palestinian official has said that "very positive" developments are now materialising in relations between Moscow and the PLO.

Abdalla Hourani, member of the PLO Executive Committee, added that the organisation is intensifying its contacts with the Soviet government, in an effort to minimise the dangers of the mass Jewish exodus to occupied Palestine.



US Secretary of State James Baker (right) speaks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during a break in the 2+4 German unification talks, in Paris on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Homeless protest

BAT YAM, Israel, July 18, (AP): Dozens of homeless Israelis barricaded themselves on the roof of city hall in this coastal town today to press demands for apartments. Some reportedly hurled firebombs and others threatened to commit suicide.

The protesters, among them several small children, voluntarily climbed down from the roof this afternoon after city officials promised to arrange a meeting with Housing Minister Ariel Sharon over their demands for housing.

The 14-hour standoff marked the second violent protest in a week by Israelis who claim that skyrocketing rents have forced them out of their homes.

On July 11, dozens of protesters burned tires on a major intersection in Tel Aviv. That day, a homeless man in Jerusalem doused himself with gasoline and threatened to set himself on fire.

Many rents have doubled and tripled in Israel as a result of the influx more than 50,000 Soviet Jews who get rent subsidies a year in advance and can pay rents in a lump sum.

In mid-June, homeless families began moving into tents set up in city parks and in front of municipal offices. As of Wednesday,

from the Soviet Union, Shevardnadze told reporters.

"But what preoccupies us very much is the problem of the installation of persons coming from the Soviet Union in the occupied territories."

"In this regard, the Arabs have a legitimate concern," the Soviet foreign minister said.

Baker made no comment on the Middle East in remarks to reporters after the lengthy session with Shevardnadze.

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy initially had been tentatively scheduled to meet with Baker in Paris after the two plus four talks as

the 2+4 German unification talks, in Paris on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

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## Arab kills three inmates

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 18, (AP): A Palestinian man choked to death three fellow Arab prisoners today in the Israeli detention camp at Ketziot in the southern Negev desert, the army said.

Arab reports said the victims were murdered on suspicion they were collaborating with prison authorities.

The murders were discovered when the three men, all from the Zaytoon quarter of Gaza City, failed to report for morning roll call, the army said in a statement.

It said the Palestinians were under detention "until the end of legal proceedings against them" but did not say if they had been charged with specific crimes. Family members said they were detained five months ago on suspicion of anti-Israeli activities.

The army said the prisoner accused of the murders was Wael Abu Famous, 18, also from Gaza City.

The deaths raised to 26 the number of Palestinians killed by fellow Arabs in Israeli jails since the start of the Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the army spokesman's office said.

Most have been murdered on suspicion they collaborated with Israeli authorities. About 10,000 Palestinians are imprisoned by Israel, including about 1,500 held without charge or trial under "administrative detention" regulations.

Since the uprising began in December 1987, 239 Palestinians have been killed by fellow Arabs. A total of 723 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians, and 45 Israelis have been slain by Palestinians.

The latest victims were identified by the army and family members as Fathi Azzam, 22; Arafat Abu Thawra, 24; and Bassam Saqer, 30.

Also today, a military court in Lod sentenced a man from Arab East Jerusalem to 11 years in prison for setting fire to 12 cars in 1988 and 1989.

Mohammed Khader Abu Houssem, 24, pleaded guilty to the arson and admitted it was "with the express intention of causing damage to Jewish property," the court said.

Houssem also was found guilty of throwing a firebomb at a military jeep in July 1988.

No one was hurt in any of the incidents, the court was told.

Scores of vehicles, mostly owned by Israelis, have been torched in Jerusalem and its suburbs by Palestinian activists as part of the uprising revolt.

Israeli troops shot and wounded 10 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip yesterday, hospital officials said.

They said Palestinians were shot in Rafah and one each in the towns of Bureij, Jabalya and Khan Younis. They ranged in age from 14 to 29.

An army spokesman said only two Gaza Arabs were hurt. Residents reported eight Palestinians wounded in Rafah.

They said this week's army actions were the first of their kind for several months in Rafah, once a flashpoint of violence during a 31-month-long Palestinian uprising.

The European Community today gave aid of more than \$1 million to Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories, the EC's executive commission said.

The commission said the EC would contribute 6 million European currency units (\$7.56 million) to six projects aimed at generating employment, improving health and education, and rehabilitating local Palestinian institutions in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank.

ANKARA, July 18, (Reuters): Turkey, concerned that rebel Kurds might have access to ground-to-air missiles, is having new Cobra helicopter gunships fitted with anti-missile devices, sources close to the armed forces said today.

The sources said it was not clear whether the rebels had Soviet-designed SA-7 missiles and their hand-held launchers, which would add a fresh dimension to the separatist insurgency that has claimed nearly 2,500 lives since mid-1984.

## MIDEAST BRIEFS

**Arafat calls emergency meeting:** Palestinian President Yasser Arafat has called for an emergency meeting for the PLO's executive committee in Tunis yesterday, a Qatari paper reported.

Daily Al Raya quoted an "official Palestinian source" as saying that the meeting will discuss outcome of Egyptian-American contacts targeting resumption of US-PLO dialogue and implementation of the recent Baghdad Arab summit resolutions on extending urgent financial aid to support the uprising.

The source said that the meeting would also discuss political situation in the Middle East region in the light of indications that efforts were being exerted to find alternatives to the PLO. (Kuna)

**Israel to renew peace call:** Israel, prompted by Syrian President Hafez Assad's visit to Egypt, snatched the opportunity on Tuesday to renew its call to begin peace negotiations with one of its most ardent foes.

But opposition leader, Shimon Peres, warned the government against trying to hold talks with Syria in place of negotiations with Palestinians, who have waged an uprising against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip for 2 1/2 years. (UPI)

**Cyprus to protest to UN:** Cyprus said on Tuesday it was to protest to the United Nations Security Council over perceived Turkish threats to settle the ghost-town of Varosha in the north of the divided island.

Varosha, a resort on the buffer zone dividing Cyprus, abandoned since the Turkish invasion of 1974, has been patrolled by troops from Turkey since then. (Reuters)

**Barre met freed dissidents:** Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre has told 45 freed dissidents that political pluralism is on the way and has urged them to work with his government.

The Somali embassy said yesterday that Siad Barre met the dissidents in Mogadishu on Tuesday. He told them a decision by the Somali national security court on Sunday clearing them of distributing a manifesto calling for a new government was made independently by the court. (Reuters)

**Mayor segregates beaches:** The newly-elected Muslim fundamentalist mayor of a seaside town in west Algeria has ordered men and women to bathe on separate beaches, a newspaper reported on Tuesday.

El Mousa daily said the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) mayor of Marsa Ben Mchidi on the border with Morocco, elected last month in Algeria's first free elections, also banned the wearing of shorts by both sexes on town streets. (Reuters)

**Six activists arrested:** Israeli police yesterday arrested six activists in the anti-Arab Kach Movement of US-born Rabbi Meir Kahane on suspicion they vandalised an office of the socialist Mapam Party.

The arrests came after vandals broke into the occupied Jerusalem Mapam office on Tuesday, smashing furniture, tearing up documents and spraying the walls with slogans such as "Kahane to power" and "death to traitors." (AP)

**Judge refuses to deport Palestinian:** An immigration judge has refused to deport a Palestinian student from US accused by the government of supporting a hard-line Palestinian group.

The student, Bashar Amer, 28, of Glendale, was one of eight alien — seven Palestinians and a Kenyan — arrested by immigration officials and the FBI in January, 1987, and accused of subversion under the McCarran-Walter act.

The decision by US immigration judge Ingrid Hrycmek, was the first ruling in the three and a half year old case on whether any of the eight defendants can be deported. It was written on July 10 and is now being circulated to lawyers. (Kuna)

**Sadat's murder plotter sentenced:** A Muslim fundamentalist serving a life sentence for plotting the 1981 murder of Anwar Sadat was sentenced yesterday to a total of 12 years for jail-breaking, forgery and possessing explosives.

Mohammed Al Aswani, a member of Egypt's Jihad (Holy Struggle) group, broke out of Tora prison near Cairo in July 1988 with other convicts after overpowering guards.

A Cairo court sentenced Aswani, a Jihad member, to six years with hard labour for forging official documents and possession and use of explosives in Tora prison. (Reuters)

**US-PLO talk will resume, Hamilton:** Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, predicts the US will continue "plodding ahead" in Mideast peacemaking because it's focus is procedure rather than substance and because it is mostly unwilling to criticise Israel.

And he suggested unless things in the region spin out of control the Bush administration is unlikely to become more engaged.

Hamilton also bluntly agreed that the US media often devotes scant attention to contentious Mideast issues like the Palestinian intifada and proposals to cut Israel aid. (Kuna)

**Leftist members stage protest:** Eleven leftist members of parliament on Tuesday began a march across the country to protest what they said was the lack of democratic freedoms in Turkey.

The deputies, all members of the newly founded People's Labour Party, will make stops in several provinces and end their march July 25 at Diyarbakir, 1,380 kms (850 miles) southeast of Istanbul.

The marchers carried posters tied around their necks. Some of them read "end to torture and repression," "general amnesty," "internal peace," and "life with honour." (AP)

**Israel urged not to limit pork sales:** A Vatican envoy in occupied Jerusalem urged Israel on Tuesday not to pass a law that would severely limit the sale of pork in the Jewish state.

Monsignor Richard Mathes, the Holy See's cultural attache, warned a parliamentary committee the proposed law was a first step towards reducing religious freedom. (Reuters)



A steel helmeted French embassy guard, brandishing an automatic rifle, stands at the barbed-wired entrance of the French embassy in Muslim west Beirut. Two men, one of them a former bodyguard in France's embassy in Beirut, are being charged with smuggling arms from Lebanon into France to sell to criminals. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Arms trafficking

### Paris cops taken in for questioning

MARSEILLE, France, July 14, (UPI): "Several" more police were arrested for questioning today in southern France in connection with a vast arms smuggling ring between CRS police working at the French embassy in Beirut and the French underworld, police said.

The latest arrests were near Bandoil in the Var region and the home of a gendarme from a "flying squad" police detection agency in the Isere region also was searched for arms smuggled from Lebanon, said the report.

Police gave no details of exactly how many of their colleagues were arrested but said there were "several" suspected of belonging to the unusual ring emanating from the security apparatus at the French embassy in Beirut.

But France-Info radio said six more police officers were rounded up in addition to two whose arrest in Beirut was disclosed and two others arrested in the eastern city of Mulhouse yesterday. They were identified as Daniel Chaudron and Jenu-Pierre Schwint.

Another police officer's house was searched in the southern port of Marseille and a foreign-made "totally irregular" pistol apparently bought in Lebanon was found and confiscated.

The arrest of two police officers working at the heavily-fortified embassy first was disclosed yesterday. They were identified as Patrick Schaller, 38, a member of the tough CRS riot squad unit, and Patrick Bessonnet, 30, a gendarme.

The two allegedly shipped Kalashnikov automatic assault rifles and M-16 automatic rifles as well as revolvers and ammunition to France where they were sold on the black market.



## US envoy

Britain's Ambassador to Lebanon David Telford leaves his car under the supervision of one of his bodyguards in Muslim west Beirut. Telford met Irish envoy Adnan Modad and discussed with him a recent report about the possible release of Irish hostage Brian Keenan. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Morocco to move 100,000 out of Fez

RABAT, July 18, (Reuters): Morocco said yesterday that the ancient city of Fez, one of the finest in the Arab world, was falling into decay through overcrowding and that 100,000 residents would have to leave.

The normal population of 120,000 had swollen to over 300,000 without any new houses being built, Moulay Ahmed Alaoui, minister of state without portfolio, told a news conference.

He said the 1,200-year-old walled city, a former Moroccan capital with many fine mosques and other buildings, urgently needed restoration.

Local authorities had set up a private company to build 25,000 apartments in satellite towns over the next five years to house 100,000 people now living within the city walls.

The new homes would be healthier and more comfortable than the present ones, he said.

## Turk hunts for Byzantine gold

ISTANBUL, July 18, (Reuters): A Turkish treasure hunter will start digging soon for what he believes is a cache of 160 tonnes of Byzantine gold coins stashed under what is now a mosque by the Emperor Constantine before the Ottoman conquest in 1453. Ibrahim Irgoren, a 74-year-old economist who began searching for antiquities and other treasures six years ago, said on Wednesday he had received government approval to start excavations in central Istanbul and would begin work shortly.

"If we find the gold coins, this will be a nationwide event," Irgoren told Reuters. "It will also help Turkey financially."

At today's prices 160

## GCC plan to encourage joint ventures

### Unified customs protection system required

MANAMA, July 18, (Kuna): The Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) is bracing itself to establish an integrated system to encourage joint industrial ventures among its six member states.

An authoritative source at the GCC's Secretariat General was quoted here yesterday by local

daily Al Ayan as saying Co-ordination and Arab industrial integration were essential steps towards realising Arab economic unity.

Mohamed Ali Ali Rashid, director of industry, electricity and technology department at the secretariat general told the paper that a feasibility study on manufacturing communications

equipment in Kuwait and another for production of limestone bricks in Saudi Arabia are currently under way.

Rashid indicated that the most important step in the integration process was the issuance of a political decision on the application of a unified system for customs protection among the GCC

states, indicating that a technical committee would be set up next October to enlist commodities subject to protection in each country.

He said several technical committees had been formed to boost electricity co-operation between Arab countries, adding the committees were currently studying a project aimed at linking national

grids of the GCC countries to serve as a link between Arab Mashriq (Middle Eastern Arab countries) and the Arab Maghrib or North African Arab countries.

The GCC is made up of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and the Sultanate of Oman.

## Salem arrives in KL for official talks

KUALA LUMPUR, July 18, (Kuna): Governor of Kuwait's central bank, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah arrived here yesterday to begin a four-day official visit to Malaysia.

He is accompanied by his wife and the bank's assistant manager for international relations technical affairs office, Nabil Hamoud Al Saqabi.

They were welcomed on arrival at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport, 25km from here by the Malaysian Central Bank (Bank Negara) Governor Jaafar Hussein and Kuwaiti Ambassador, Essa Abdul Rahman Al Essa.

Sheikh Salem told Kuna in an exclusive interview that he will hold discussions with his Malaysian counterpart on matters relating to bank operations.

"This is my first visit to Malaysia and I hope to exchange ideas and discuss matters of mutual interest with my Malaysian counterpart."

"I will also call on the Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohammad and the Finance Minister Daim Zaiduddin during my stay here," he said.

Sheikh Salem said he would also try to get first-hand information on Kuwait's investment activities in Malaysia.

"As you know Kuwait through the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) has invested a big sum in several industrial and agricultural sectors in Malaysia," he said.

However, he said, the purpose of his official visit here was to discuss investment matters although he is a member of the KIA board.

He said co-operation on bank matters between Kuwait and Malaysia had been very good, adding: "I hope my visit here will further strengthen co-operation."

Asked whether Malaysia had requested loans from Kuwait, Sheikh Salem said: "I am not aware of this."

He added he was in Singapore for two days on a private visit.

## New pager devices in October

DIRECTOR of the marketing department at the Mobile Telephones Company Sheikh Hamad Naser Al Sabah has said that the company will receive large amounts of new pager devices during October of this year.

In a statement made to a local daily, he added that the new pager devices will be smaller than the currently used devices and has other advantages like recording time of calls and the audio message received by the subscriber.

He added that the company will also receive mobile telephone devices in the beginning of 1991. He pointed out that the company has completed the project for the establishment of units system to go along with the currently used system.

He pointed out that calling and receiving calls has become much easier after developing communications networks and after the company addressed the problem of engaged lines.

New additions have been made to the pager centre in the previous week in order to decrease pressure on central operations. Subscribers will have noticed the differences recently, he said.

He added that a number of pagers will be distributed among official and government parties during the coming days. The number of pager applications have reached 5,000, and subscribers are allowed to replace their old pagers with new pager devices after paying the fees indicated by the company, the official said.



Science Club trip

A delegation representing the Kuwait Science Club left Kuwait on a scientific overland trip to Jordan to join similar delegations from Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. The trip is organised in co-operation with the Environmental Protection Council.

Special scientific equipment has been provided to the team to enable members to carry out environmental studies.

The trip will take the delegation on a tour of many scientific institutes and universities in Jordan as well as to sites of historical importance.

## Education ministry keen to ensure respect for teachers

### Three new deans at KU

MINISTER of Education, Dr Abdullah Yousuf Al Ghunaim stressed that the ministry has a respectful outlook towards teachers for their role in the educational process. He emphasised the fact that the ministry is keen to ensure a place of honour for teachers in society.

These statements were made by the minister upon receiving a delegation from the Kuwait Teachers Society headed by the society board director Omar Al Gharer Monday.

Ghunaim pointed out that the objectives of the teachers society are strongly parallel with the objectives of the ministry. The minister expressed readiness to visit the society as soon as possible in order to discuss a number of issues and find solutions to the various problems.

The delegation head, delivered a speech congratulating the minister on his new post and pointed out the importance of constant co-operation between the society and the ministry for the interest of the educational process in the country.

Gharer invited the minister to visit the society in order to take a close look at the extra coaching classes organised by the society for students in order to know the various society activities.

On the other hand, the Minister of Education received at his office, the rector of the University of

Kuwait, Dr Shuaib Abdullah Shuaib and the general director of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Dr Abdul Rahman Saleh Al Mhailan. The minister exchanged with his guests friendly talks and the guests congratulated the minister on his new post.

In a related development, the Dean of Acceptance and Registration at Kuwait University, indicated that co-ordination has been made between the deanary and the Ministry of Higher Education regarding presenting applications and announcing acceptance results at the university.

He added that students not accepted at the Ministry of Higher Education scholarships are allowed to present their application to Kuwait University.

He pointed out that application receipt activities held at the exhibits hall in Khaldiya were very smooth and without any problems or obstacles.

He stated that the university may announce acceptance results on July 27, 1990.

Meanwhile, the Scholarships Department at the Ministry of Higher Education announced the names of students nominated for scholarships for the coming academic year. The ministry urged students who were not accepted to withdraw their papers and present them to the university.



Clubs inspection

Dr Rasheed Al Hamad, assistant undersecretary for planning and development at the Ministry of Education, accompanied by the director of Schools Activities Department, went on an inspection tour of the Nugra club for girls and the club for boys in Hawally.

Dr Hamad reviewed the different programmes of activities implemented by the club members, and listed the views and suggestions of club supervisors.

He also listened to brief accounts by students of the wide scope of activities provided by the club to its members to utilise their summer vacation in useful and rewarding activities. Picture shows Dr Hamad at the boys club in Hawally.

## Agricultural functional overlapping to be sorted out

THE chairman of Kuwaiti Agricultural Engineers Society Mohammed Abbas stressed on the necessity to sort out functions between the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Resources and the public and private agricultural bodies. The overlapping of functions hinders agricultural work in Kuwait, he said. He added that authority has been achieving progress since 1983 due to its modern organisational and administrative structures.

The authority is able to make agricultural plans and carry them out to develop this vital sector. But he added that the authority is suffering from a shortage in Kuwaiti agricultural engineers.

There is a very small number of these engineers and this do not meet the ambitious projects and plans of the authority in the new Five-Year Plan. He added that the state believes that agriculture is one of the main strategic goals that are being applied to diversify the national income besides concern to animal and fish resources.

Abbas called for the transfer of the authority into a ministry of agriculture as in other Arab states. He added that agriculture in Kuwait represents a low percentage of national production compared to oil production. It will not form a high percentage in the near future, he said.

## Currency options seminar concluded

KUWAIT'S Society for Foreign Exchange Dealers recently organised a seminar on the theme of option rights — buying and selling foreign currencies and their pricing structures.

The chairman of the society, Tarek Al Ateeqi in his opening speech confirmed the importance of understanding the nuances of the option system to avoid losses.

Also speaking at the seminar, Prof. Thomas Kily, from the Bahrain-based Arab Banking Corporation, said that the need for options has been projected as a result of the existence of companies who produce consumer goods and in view of the connections of these companies with foreign markets.

### Types

He explained that there were two types of options — the first is known as "Over the Counter System" (OTC) which relates to inter-corporation deals — the other is called "Traded Options" (TO) and is well-known and in certain bourses, including Chicago and New York.

Meanwhile he cited an example to clarify the benefits from the option system — a company receives an amount of £3 million and decides to sell it for another currency in the belief that the sterling will drop after a month. In this case, he said that the company will find itself with two options — either to sell this amount in accordance with the forward sale conditions or to sell its sterling pound option rights and in this case it will pay a slight margin to avert the prospective loss.

## Arab ministers meeting useless: UAE daily

ABU DHABI, July 18, (Reuters): A United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper yesterday attacked as useless a decision by Arab foreign ministers to boycott countries and companies helping Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel.

"The way the issues were tackled in the ministers' statement was about as useful as ploughing water and was an attempt to escape reality.... Nor does it deserve the attention of those against who it is directed," Al Akhleej said in an editorial.

The decision by 12 ministers in Tunis was announced to support the Palestine Liberation Organisation's fight to stop the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Al Khaleej said the decision was just another joint Arab statement which did not reflect the real beliefs of the individual nations involved.

"All of them are very good at the rhetorical art of condemnation, reaffirmation, and intensification of efforts. Arab statements are almost all a copy of each other," it said.

The measures would not work because they were being channelled through the relatively ineffective Damascus-based Arab Boycott Office, it said.

## Arab nations transit point for drugs: study

### Kuwait steps up anti-narc training

ACCORDING to a recent study on narcotics prepared by the General Department for Planning and Information at the Interior Ministry the biggest hauls of hashish in the Arab world took place in Syria, Egypt and the Sudan. Between the period 1980 to 1986, 344,609.28 kilos of hashish were confiscated in Egypt, 29,242.594 kilos in Syria and 78,540.597 in the Sudan.

The study said that 6,370,610 kilos of opium were seized accounting for 21.20 per cent of the quantity seized all over the world. The Emirates apprehended 211,274 kilos, Egypt 486,271 and Syria 101,859 kilos.

The quantity of cocaine seized during the same period was 52,736 kilos, accounting for 0.04 per cent of the quantity seized in the world, amounting to 127,901 kilos. The largest catches were made in Syria, Lebanon and Morocco.

Col Abdul Majed Khorabut, director of the General Department for Planning and Information, author of the study, said that there is a drug mafia special-

ised in growing, producing and smuggling drugs to different parts of the world, crossing all regional and political boundaries. Their sole and only target is profit and undermining the productivity of generations of youth who are the major investment of all nations.

He said that the strategic location of the Arab world close to the major drug-producing countries, acts as a vital transit passage for various drug smugglers between East and West.

He added that the types of drugs most commonly confiscated included hallucinatory pills, hashish, opium, morphine, heroine, cocaine, LSD, barbiturates, keptagon and other mind-boggling drugs.

He said that drug addicts belonged to different economic and educational levels, and that the problem was more rampant among the poor and illiterate. The presence of secret drug factories and growing fields help promote the spread of the drug-trade in the world, particularly in places suffering a lack of political stability.

He said that the study referred to the great efforts exerted by Kuwait in the field of combating drugs at the national and international levels. The government in Kuwait has paid substantial attention to consolidate and support national anti-narcotic authorities, through regular training, and acquaintance with latest counter-drug smuggling technologies. The state also makes available all needed lab and technical facilities to enrich research studies and contribution to anti-narcotic literature.

He also said that the relevant authorities in Kuwait implement special educational programmes aimed at raising awareness of the magnitude of social problems caused by the spread of drugs in the nation. An ad-hoc Higher National Committee was of late set up under the chairmanship of the Interior Ministry. The committee is entrusted with drawing up a general policy for combating drugs, identification of drug-related problem dimensions, and factors responsible for the promotion of the drug trade and industry.

## Afforestation Week scheduled for Oct 15-22

A COMMITTEE to undertake preparations for the afforestation week celebrations scheduled to take place from Oct 15 through 22nd has been formed as per directives issued by the chairman of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij.

The activities of the week will include holding seminars and lectures which will take place at different clubs, youth centres and welfare societies.

The decision of the chairman also included stipulating the tasks of the committee to be represented by communicating with the information media in addition to preparing posters aimed at enlightening the public on the importance of the greenery process. Additionally, the committee will also distribute brochures highlighting the importance of afforestation and will organise competitions to select the best garden in the residential areas.

The committee will also be requesting agricultural firms to extend special discounts on purchases of all agricultural materials.

The committee is to be chaired by Abdul Mohsen Al Qallaf with Khalaf Al Shatti as deputy chairman.

Meanwhile deputy director-general of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Dr Sultan Ahmed Sultan yesterday stressed the continuous co-operation between the authority and the municipality to ensure that meat imported into the country is free of harmful diseases and is suitable for human consumption.

The official was commenting on local press reports about a consignment of Australian sheep which has been rejected by Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates for fear that the sheep have scabby mouth and could therefore be dangerous for human consumption.

Dr Sultan said clinical tests on the shipment of Australian sheep confirmed presence of eight cases of apparent scabby mouth out of the rejected consignment of 48,000 heads, adding the shipment is still impounded pending finalisation of clinical laboratory tests.

However, the official indicated that the scabby mouth disease among animals is not dangerous either to public health or to man and is not contagious according to lists of the Paris-based international bureau of epidemics.

### Haj deaths

## Jakarta free to investigate: Zamel

SAUDI ARABIA said yesterday it would welcome a mission from Jakarta to investigate the deaths of hundreds of Indonesian haj pilgrims near Makkah during a stampede in a pedestrian tunnel earlier this month.

"We always welcome our brother Indonesians," visiting Saudi Industry Minister Abdulaziz Abdullah Al Zamel told reporters after meeting President Suharto.

While the Jakarta government has avoided assigning blame, there has been widespread anger in Indonesia over the tragedy on July 2 in which 1,400 haj pilgrims, 581 of them Indonesians, were killed.

Indonesia's largest Muslim group, Nahdlatul Ulama, has said Riyadh must accept responsibility and cannot escape blame simply by saying the disaster was an act of God.

"I will ask for a clearer explanation, because we want to know the cause of the disaster, so it will not happen again," said Indonesia's Minister of Religion Muna-awir Sjadzali, who flies to Saudi Arabia today with members of parliament.

He quoted Suharto as saying the Saudi government should improve facilities for the annual pilgrimage and this could only be done effectively if the cause of the tragedy was known.

Riyadh has dismissed allegations that the stampede was caused by a power failure or rioting.

"I wanted to explain that there were no riots and no tear-gas," Zamel said. Security officers had sprayed oxygen into the crowded tunnel, he added.

The ministers arrived on Monday to express King Fahd's sympathy to families of the victims.

## Nuzha co-op chairman criticises nepotism

THE chairman of Al Nuzha Co-operative Society, Adnan Mohammed Al Goshaihi said that some directors at co-operative societies grant privileges to their kin at the cost of the co-operative's interest.

He went on to state that this form of "special treatment" is not only prevalent at co-ops, but also manifests itself in the corridors of ministries and companies.

However, the official specifically called on the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to directly control the activities of the board of directors of societies.

The official said that he does not subscribe to the idea that board members at co-operatives should be full time employees. The reasoning, he said, is that many members are doctors, lawyers, and engineers and the salary paid to them is insufficient.

Commenting on claims that consumer goods at popular markets were cheaper than that at co-ops, he said that popular markets depend mainly on goods from companies who have decided to withdraw from the market or who are under liquidation. Conversely, he said that co-ops obtained their goods from well-known companies.

As evidence of the public's preference to purchase goods from co-ops, he said that turnover of co-ops in 1989 amounted to KD229,557,512.

Meanwhile, the official called for revising co-operative laws to keep abreast with the development witnessed by the co-ops movement in the country.

### Filipino delegation

KUWAIT, July 18, (Kuna): Kuwait's Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Muhammad Al Hamdan yesterday received a Filipino delegation led by Senator Abdel Jaber Tamano, currently on a visit here.

Talks during the meeting, which took place at premises of the National Council, touched on living conditions of the Muslim community in the Philippines.

It was reported that the delegation, which arrived here yesterday, requested Kuwaiti assistance for Muslims in that Far East Asian country.

## Municipality approves Umm Al Haiman plan

ACCORDING to an official source at the Kuwait Municipality, the Municipal Affairs Committee has approved the plan for the northern and western sectors in Umm Al Haiman, presented by the National Housing Authority (NHA).

The source said that the committee approved request by the NHA to approve the drawings on the condition that a study is conducted of the existing locations of substations in relation to the residential blocks, with specific reference to the aesthetic aspect.

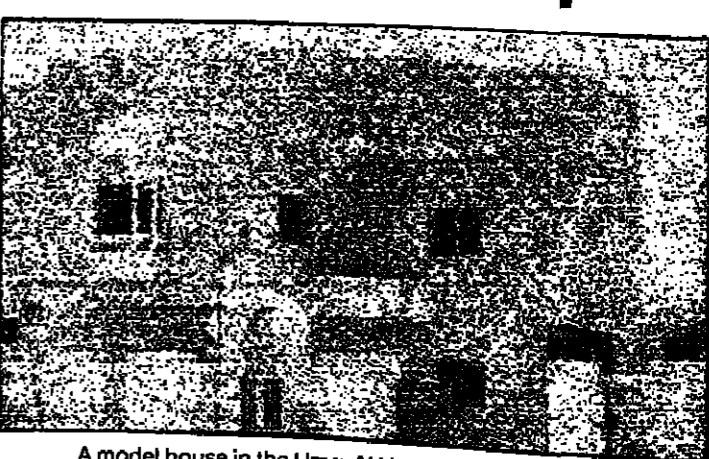
The committee stressed the need for preparing another study on the effect of the Shuaiba Industrial Area from the environmental point of view. The committee specifically referred to the report of the Environmental Protection Council in this connection, and also a study of the plan for sanitary drainage and related wind

direction considerations.

Incidentally, the Umm Al Haiman planning project is one of the major projects on the fourth five-year plan 90-95 launched by the NHA, and it is the first project involving integrated urban planning for a residential town falling within the Kuwait urban masterplan.

The total area of the project is 532 hectares divided into three main residential sectors.

An official at the NHA said that one of the prominent aspects of the project is the green belt surrounding the project from the northern and southern area at width of 200 metres.



A model house in the Umm Al Haiman residential plan.

The project will also include 200 to 250 residential units, a mosque, a number of shops and a play area, while the main units of the masterplan consist of 450-550 residential units, with a kindergarten, two mosques, a number of shops, playground and power substation.

The northern sector of the project consists of 1,071 residential units with two kindergartens, public facilities, elementary, and two intermediate schools for boys and girls, as well as a central mosque, park and two power substations.

قبراء التصل

# 23 more Malaysians missing in tunnel tragedy

## Minister spends six days in S. Arabia

KUALA LUMPUR, July 18, (Kuna): Another 23 Malaysian pilgrims are reported missing in the July 2 Al Muaissem tunnel tragedy in Mina, Saudi Arabia, bringing the total number of victims so far, to 155.

Malaysian Minister in the prime minister's department Dr Yusof Nor who announced this on his return from the holy land yesterday said 91 of the victims had already been identified and their names released.

He said the Malaysian haj authorities (Tabung Haji) and Malaysian embassy officials in Saudi Arabia were still working to identify the remaining 64 Malaysian victims.

Dr Yusof was in Saudi Arabia for six days to obtain the latest information on the tragedy which claimed the lives of more than 1,426 pilgrims from various countries.

During his stay there, he called on the Saudi Haj and Awkaf Minister, Abdul Wahab Wasie, Home Minister Naif Bin Abdul Aziz and the Amir of Makkah, Prime Majid Bin Abdul Aziz.

Dr Yusof said Saudi authorities had taken photographs and finger prints of all victims to facilitate identification by officials of the countries involved.

He said the government is ready to assist Tabung Haji to identify the thumbprints if it required the services of experts by

deploying Malaysian police officers to Makkah.

According to Dr Yusof, about 80 per cent of the victims died outside the tunnel, near the area for the stone-throwing rites, while the rest perished at the mouth of the tunnel.

He said aerial photographs taken by the Saudi government of the scene of the tragedy reflected the masses of pilgrims who perished.

"The pilgrims going in and out of the tunnel look like colonies of ants from the air," he said.

Dr Yusof said each year, the Saudi government takes aerial photographs of the pilgrimage rites in order to obtain a

better picture of areas needed attention in future.

He visited the scene of the tragedy and injured pilgrims being treated at the Nur Hospital and Hiraq Hospital there.

From his interviews with the injured pilgrims, he found the claims that the deaths were caused by the tunnel collapse, damaged bridge or disruption of air supply in the tunnel were not true.

He said the Saudi government is conducting a preliminary study to construct another tunnel leading to the site for the stone-throwing rites from Al Muaissem, for the convenience of future pilgrims.



One of the 52 cemeteries in Kuwait.

# Death rites

## Free of charge services

SUPERVISOR of undertaking services at Kuwait's cemetery, Hamadeh said that corpses are received by the cemetery on presentation of the medical report and the abolition of the dead is the first step in preparing the body for burial. The ablutions are carried out with a mixture of cedar and water.

Speaking to a reporter of a local daily, Hamadeh said, if the body still requires cleaning, it will be washed twice more up to seven times. Later it will be carried to a special slab where the body is dried shrouded and placed in a coffin to be carried to the graveyard for burial. The death prayer, in which mercy and forgiveness is asked from Allah for the dead person is performed before burial.

Hamadeh said that some families want to perfume the dead person with a special exquisite fragrance and this they may do so before burial, using sandalwood or rose or any other perfume provided it does not have detrimental effect on the dead person's body.

The dead person would be washed if one third of their body is intact, but if more than two thirds of the body is mangled Tayamum will be used to purify the body instead of water. Tayamum is the Islamic way of using earth instead of water for purification in times of emergency or whenever water is not available.

Hamadeh said that this happens when the dead person has been killed by a fire or in a car accident. If the body has turned putrid, however no cleaning or washing will be performed, and burial takes place immediately as the bad smell is intolerable and the chances of viral infection are high.

Speaking on the reason why women are denied access into the cemetery, Hamadeh said that a great many of them who come to pay respect to their dead husbands or relatives bring food, sweets or balloons with them. The way some of the women are dressed shows no respect for the sanctity of the place.

He added that other reasons for banning the entry of women into the cemetery is the frantic outbursts of emotions, loud crying or involvement in chest-beating and wailing which is warned against in Islam as modes of objection to the will of Allah, and that is Haram.

Hamadeh said that exhumation is possible if the dead person has not long been interred, and if the person has died under mysterious circumstances that requires further investigation by the authorities.

However if the dead person has been buried for a long time the body will not be exhumed as respect for the person's final resting place.

Hamadeh said that on a number of occasions, when washing a supposedly dead body signs of life are discovered and the body is immediately rushed to the hospital. Elaborating, he added that on one occasion it actually happened that as a dead child was being washed his extremities moved as water was poured on his body. The child was sent to hospital but unfortunately died after two days.

On another occasion, a man had been washed, shrouded and made ready for burial but someone heard him sneeze. It was discovered that the man was actually alive and some say that he lived many years after the incident.

Not all people have the capability or are qualified to wash the dead, Hamadeh said. Prophet Mohammad (peace and Allah's blessings be upon him) says that "None shall wash our dead other than those most faithful."

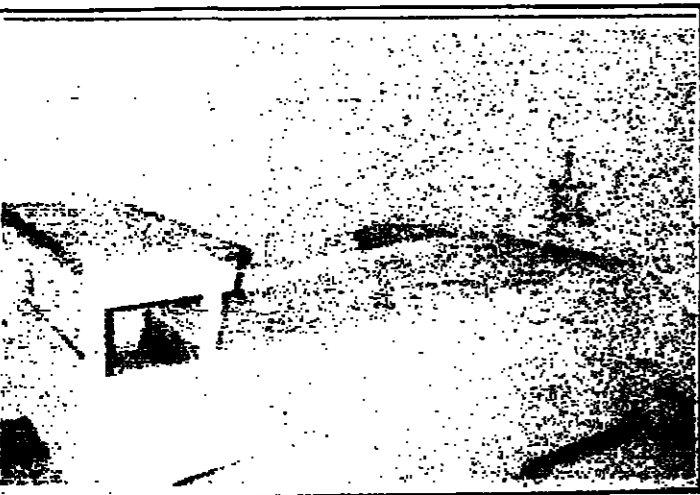
Hamadeh cited cases where many applicants for the professions failed the practical test and others swooned at the sight of a dead body while many more threw up the minute they set eyes on a deformed body. He added that there are 52 cemeteries in Kuwait, including old ones for Jews and Christians, which are retained unexcavated because it is anti-Islamic to do that.

He said that some families would stand by to watch their dead being washed to ensure that the washing is correct, while others deliver the body and flee the place, terrified by death.

Hamadeh said that the authorities in Kuwait do not allow the building of special graveyard enclosures for families, like the practice in some Arab countries. Graves and undertaking services are offered free of charge to families of dead people in Kuwait. However in some Arab countries the grave has to be bought.

Abdul Salam Omar, who has been washing the dead for over 14 years, said that he took up this job to remind himself of the perishable nature of life. He keeps himself disciplined with the knowledge that life is not worth the wing of a mosquito.

He appealed to the authorities not to keep the bodies of people dying on the road in the refrigerator for long as this renders the body stiff and it subsequently makes it difficult for washing and cleaning.



The stone slab where the bodies are washed



Cedar and camphor used to wash corpses.

### Weather

HOT summer weather with light variable to moderate northwesterly wind.  
State of sea: Slight to moderate  
High water: 7.35 am, 10.36 pm  
Low water: 1.54 am, 4.03 pm  
Sunrise: 5.01 am  
Sunset: 6.48 pm  
Maximum temperature recorded:  
Kuwait: 48°C 118°F  
Ahmadi: 45°C 109°F  
Fahala: 46°C 111°F  
Maximum temperature expected:  
Kuwait: 47°C 117°F  
Ahmadi: 44°C 109°F  
Fahala: 45°C 113°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 32°C 90°F  
Ahmadi: 30°C 85°F  
Fahala: 33°C 91°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 18 per cent  
Ahmadi: 8 per cent  
Fahala: 30 per cent

## Rumeithiya considered model area

RUMEITHIYA, a quiet residential area where afforestation is progressing smoothly and residents in this area in general expressed their satisfaction with the services with the exception of a few inconveniences of minor proportion.

A local daily interviewed a number of residents to highlight their opinions.

Khaled Al Aslawi said that prices at the co-op are very expensive as compared with Bayan Co-op, though all essential goods are made available at the Rumeithiya Society. He added that cleanliness of the area is of the highest standards and cannot be faulted. He commented that the area could be considered a model area in the country, as it is well planned, has all the amenities needed and is bereft of crime. Recreational facilities are made available at the coastal front and the public garden.

Mohammed Lafi, residing at Rumeithiya Block 8 said that the area suffers from a shortage in security patrols. He added that there are no recreational

places in the area, except the public garden which lacks attention. Rumeithiya Clinic is the scene of a rush of patients, particularly during the night and is caused due to the small size of the clinic, he said and commented that the establishment of a medical complex should be seriously considered which would reduce the number of patients from the clinic in addition to providing additional doctors.

Ali Abdullah Al Saffar residing at Block 9 said that most residents suffer due to the overflowing of sewage, though he praised the efforts of the municipality in removing the garbage on a daily basis.

He was critical of the attitude of some youth who drive their vehicles recklessly in the area and do not abide by traffic rules. He recommended that officials should pay more attention to establishing more youth centres in the area.

He said that the Rumeithiya public garden is neglected and requires more care. Children games at the garden are often out of order and could pose a danger to some young children, he concluded.

## KES to review economy

By Jadranka Porter  
Arab Times staff

THE Kuwait Economic Society is to hold a three-day conference in November in what appears to be its, until now, most serious and comprehensive attempt to analyse developments since the discovery of oil.

The event will attract Kuwait's top economists who will trace back economic policies and examine their impact on different sectors. Special reports on key sectors such as finance, oil and industry will be presented while monetary, manpower and education policies will also come under scrutiny.

Amer Al Tamimy, the secretary-general of the 150-member society, said the conference is a landmark event in the group's 20-year history.

The meeting comes a year after the announcement of a package of economic measures aimed at reviving Kuwait's economy in the aftermath of the Gulf war and the oil price slump.

The programme jointly devised by the government and the private sector was received with mixed feelings among the economists. While they concede that it addresses the real issues they complain that the measures fall short of providing realistic solutions.

Critics say that the programme does not propose how to grapple with Kuwait's heavy dependence on oil revenues, investment income and foreign labour. Nor does it specify steps to turn Kuwait into a society that can produce instead of relying on rentier income.

Indeed the pervasive rentier mentality, say the analysts, will stand in the way of government efforts to boost the role of the private sector which is expected to take over some of the public administration's responsibilities and businesses. They say the government remains the biggest project owner and consumer the merchant community caters to, and the local tradesman are keen on preserving the relationship as it is.

The conference is expected to provide fresh insights into the private sector's role in reports on future prospects and a panel discussion at the end of the meeting.

## Jetley resigns as AI chief

AIR INDIA'S flamboyant managing director Rajan Jetley resigned yesterday to accept a very senior position in an overseas international organisation which he is expected to take over in August.

A press release issued by Air India said Jetley relinquished charge yesterday following acceptance of his resignation on July 12, 1990.

S.R. Gupta, Air India's director of finance has been asked by the Indian government to officiate as MD until further orders.

Jetley joined Air India as MD in March 1987. In his 40 month tenure AI witnessed several product innovations notably introduction of non-stop flights, product upgrade, new corporate identity programme and the shift of emphasis from volume orientation to profit orientation.

AI emerged as a profitable airline with Rajan Jetley at the helm. In 1989/90 AI saw a net profit of Rs 70 crores and an operating profit of Rs 125 crores both highest in the history of Air India.

## Jordanian arrested for breaking and entering

THE CID men at Ahmadi Governorate arrested a Jordanian national Farouk A. on the charge of breaking into a house in Fahaleh area and stealing KD370 and some clothes. The defendant admitted he stole clothes and some cassanets.

CID men also arrested two Kuwaitis Bashir and Jamaan and a non-Kuwaiti Sameh for steal-

# Better care for thalassemics

## Fund-raising a priority

By Diana Abou Haidar  
Arab Times staff

ABOUT one thousand thalassemics in Kuwait can look forward to additional medical and social care, thanks to the newly established Thalassemia Society.

With physicians, pharmacists, patients and parents on its board, the society aims at making life easier for those who suffer from this type of inherited anaemia that occurs with relatively high frequency in the Mediterranean area.

"We treat 500 cases at Al Sabah Hospital alone," said Dr Hala Rimawi, consultant paediatrician at the children's ward and the society's secretary-general. "We start treating these patients when they first manifest the disease at the age of one, and they stay with us until they are twenty and over."

She added that because their bone marrow cannot produce normal red cells, thalassemics have to have blood transfusions almost every month as long as they live. "But the problem with these transfusions is that they contain excess iron that deposits in their bodies and causes problems in their hearts, glands and skin. So they have to be given continuous medication to rid their systems of this excess iron."

**Encouragement**

"It is tough on parents to deal with children who have chronic diseases. Sometimes they get fed up and they need to be encouraged frequently," said Rimawi. "The society will organise lectures, trips and parties that will bring patients of different ages and their parents together so that they can share their experiences and provide one



Dr Hala Al Rimawi

another with much needed support.

Initiated by a pharmacist at Ciba Geigy Pharmaceuticals and Rimawi, the society which was recently announced by the Kuwait Medical Association also aims at minimising the incidence of this hereditary disease. "A simple pre-marital test a couple can take in minute can tell us if they are carriers of the disease and if their children might get it," explained Rimawi who has been working with thalassemics for about fifteen years. "Public awareness is high on our list of activities."

"People should be told what thalassemia is. They should know that thalassemics can live a normal life like everybody else. When they know what thalassemia is they will stop asking questions like why are you pale, why are you short and why do you walk slowly," said Tahira Al Awadi, a member of the society's

board who has had thalassemia for most of her life. Thalassemics have special features common among them caused by the enlargement of their bone marrow.

### Funds

The employees of the Arab Centre for Medical Literature added that Arabs still have a lot to learn about dealing with diseases and disabilities. "People should be evaluated with what they can offer society not with their looks."

Fund-raising is another priority on the society's list of activities planned for this fall. "We need money to be able to help fellow thalassemics. We hope that charitable people in Kuwait come forward for us," said Awadi. She added that some families have five thalassemic children and need help in buying medical equipment or even transporting their sick children to the hospital for treatment and frequent transfusions. "Also some people could be sent abroad for bone marrow transplant if a suitable donor is found."

Awadi thanked Dr Abdullah Al Rushaid, president of the society for his continuous support to the thalassemia patients and the new organisation.

Board members of the Thalassemia Society are: Dr Abdullah Al Rushaid, president; Dr Hala Al Rimawi, secretary-general; Ph. Lina Al Khoutly from Ciba Geigy Pharmaceuticals; Dr Qusai Al Saleh; Dr Duraid Dagistan; Dr Moaz Al Douri; Dr Aue-sha Al Attar; Ibrahim Al Qabandi; Mrs Nuzera Al Yaacoub; Mohamad Hassan Jassem; Yousef Al Badawi; Tahira Al Awadi and Hanan Al Obaidi.



## Smugglers caught

The Criminal Investigation Department is interrogating four persons for smuggling alcohol and amphetamine pills into Kuwait.

An Interior Ministry release said that two Kuwaitis Mutlag A. and Munir A. along with the Saudis Jalran A. and Mohammed M. were arrested with 100 crates of liquor in their possession. They had ordered the crates from a European country aboard a container, the release said, adding that on searching the house of the defendant Munir, the CID men found 120,000 amphetamine pills.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Amir receives message:** His Highness the Amir received today Austrian Ambassador to Kuwait Hans Demel who delivered a message to HH from Austrian President Kurt Waldheim. (Kuna)

**UAE envoy:** His Highness the Amir today received the credentials of newly appointed United Arab Emirates' Ambassador to Kuwait, Obaid Khalifa Al Zaabi.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah. (Kuna)

**New system from Sept 1:** As of Sept 1, 1990 an indirect infringement system in relation to traffic will come into effect, Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) quoted an official source at Kuwait's General Traffic Department as saying.

The system in its basic concept is intended to oblige all motorists to abide by all traffic rules and regulations.

To ensure the smooth operation of the system, the official said that about 580 officers from the Ministry of Interior holding ranks of major and major-general will be empowered to apply the proposed system.

These officers are authorised to issue traffic

tickets to violating motorists without interrogating the violator personally or otherwise.

Relevant tickets are to be sent to the traffic department by fax who will in turn communicate with the violator specifics of his violation. However, the motorist has the right to provide rebuttals to the cited infringement.

**Fifth housing week:** General Director of the National Housing Authority, Dr Ibrahim Majed Al Shaheen issued a decision for the formation of the main committee for the Fifth Housing Week and the International Arab Housing Day celebrations which will be held on October 1, 1990.

The committee has held its first meeting along with other branch committees.

**Police friends group:** In the framework of activities organised by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour at youth centres, the Police Friends Group is assisting the administration of the Ministries Complex in preserving security by inspecting visitors at the complex. The group took part in organising the visitors entrance at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour yesterday. The group also takes part in organising traffic with the co-operation of the Ministry of Interior.

پاکستانی اخبارات  
جنگ لاهور  
نوائے وقت  
۲۰ دینار مابانہ

میں معلوم ہوا ہے کہ حمایہ - حساوی - نیرطمان اور  
فرزاد کے ملاقات میں ایک دو بارز چارے  
مقررہ قیمتوں سے زیادہ وصول کر رہے ہیں۔ بارز کم  
۲۰ دینار مابانہ سے زیادہ آوا کر کے ہمارے  
حزمت کو ۱۰۰ غلے میں پرہیز کر رہے ہیں

مکتبہ الرشید مرتاب  
فون ۲۴۵۵۱۳۰

## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WE LEARN from history that we learn nothing from history — George Bernard Shaw, English playwright (1856-1950)

## Communist play fails

## Serbians find head in writer

BELGRADE, (UPI): With his dark, tangled locks of shoulder-length hair, unkempt beard and fiery eyes, Vuk Draskovic appears to be very bit the Messianic leader to growing numbers of Yugoslavia's majority Serbs.

"I am not a Moses, but probably my looks are (like him)," said the 43-year-old former communist, denying he is trying to emulate other erstwhile East European Marxists who have gained power after alleged democratic reincarnations.

"My dream is to end communist rule in Serbia and, after that, immediately return to my room... and write my books," the opposition leader said in an interview.

It was Draskovic's novels glorifying Serbian history that helped push him to the front of a nationalist wave that is sweeping the largest of the six republics in this multi-ethnic nation of 23 million, fuelling fears of a possible civil war.

He believes such a war will be avoided. But he is sure Serbia will have to use force to crush ethnic Albanian separatism in its long-troubled Kosovo province, cherished with fanatical devotion by 8.5 million Serbs as the cradle of their heritage and religion.

"The war between Serbs and Albanians will be very short, although we are not for that solution. But room for negotiations is closed," said Draskovic, the leader of the Serbian Revival Movement.

Draskovic is in direct competition with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, who has been stoking the embers of Serbian nationalism for the past several years to create a solid power base for himself.

The communists have themselves to blame for paving the way for Draskovic's rise by fanning the Kosovo crisis as a means of avoiding extinction. They harnessed long-suppressed Serbian nationalism and consolidated Milosevic's assumption of power in 1987.

Their tactic worked for a while.

But many Serbs became disenchanted with renewed anti-Serbian unrest in Kosovo and Milosevic's failure to resolve the problem. Attention began shifting to nationalists like Draskovic, who sought the same appeal as the communists but lacked the stigma of adherence to Marxism.

Draskovic got a major boost in April when nationalists in Croatia and Slovenia ousted communists in the first free assembly elections held in Yugoslavia since the 1945 communist takeover.

He called for immediate elections in Serbia and the enactment of a new constitution enshrining Western-style parliamentary democracy and restoring the Serbian royal family.

But he urged the elimination of virtually all constitutionally endowed autonomy for Kosovo to stifle Albanian separatist aspirations and right what many Serbs regard as the treacherous partition of their republic by Marshal Tito, the Croatian who led postwar Yugoslavia until his death in 1980.

Draskovic said the 1.7 million-member ethnic Albanian majority in Kosovo should continue to use its own language and practice Islam. But he advocates expulsion — by force, if necessary — of those refusing "to accept Kosovo as part of Serbia and to accept the Serbian state as their own."

There are about 200,000 Serbs in Kosovo, where a centuries-old conflict intensified after Tito's death because of growing ethnic Albanian demands for independence from Serbia.

Many ethnic Albanians are calling for independence from Serbia and the elevation of Kosovo to the status of a republic within the Yugoslav federation. But there are some extremist elements who want complete independence and merger with adjacent Albania in a "greater Albania."

As with other politicians, Draskovic realises Kosovo is the key to political success in Serbia. His fanning of Serbian passions over the seething Kosovo issue cast him as a power-hungry extremist in the eyes of smaller Serbian opposition parties, rival ethnic groups and diplomats.

But his critics also acknowledge that Draskovic's opinions are shared by most Serbs and reluctantly agree that, with his calls for democracy and multi-party elections, he is actually a voice of moderation among a growing chorus of Serbian extremists.

A mixture of nationalism and anti-communism, his messages have even been embraced by Serbs abroad. Last year, he staged a fund-raising tour of Serbian communities in the United States, where several of his books are being translated for publication.

"The party led by me is the most popular party," he asserted, contending it will triumph easily in promised assembly elections.

Those are not empty words.

In an effort to restore his strength among voters, Milosevic has claimed many of Draskovic's positions as his own despite near-daily rebuke of the opposition leader by the communist-controlled media.

Draskovic also is attacked by his more extreme opposition rivals as a communist collaborator because he still lives in the large apartment he was given when he was top aide to a former boss of Yugoslavia's labour federation.

He denies the charge of collaboration, but not his past and explains his political reincarnation with the story of St Paul.

"The role of Jesus Christ, in my case, was the truth. Reading documents, books, travelling around the world. I found the truth and accepted," said Draskovic, who worked as a reporter in Africa for Yugoslavia's Tanjug news agency after graduating from Belgrade University with a law degree.

Draskovic's rallies tend to reinforce an ominous image. His supporters wear militaristic Serbian costumes, waving banners emblazoned with the two-headed eagle of the former Serbian royal family or the cross of the Serbian Orthodox Church. Their slogans promise destruction to Serbia's enemies.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1545 — French force lands on Isle of Wight against British.
- 1551 — Treaty of Kalburg reaffirms Archduke Ferdinand's right to crown of Hungary and Transylvania.
- 1588 — Spanish armada is sighted off Cornish coast of England.
- 1610 — Basil Shuisky, Tsar of Russia, is deposed after Swedish army under Jacob de La Gardie, sent against Polish invaders of Russia, is forced to surrender.
- 1712 — Britain and France sign truce.
- 1870 — France declares war on Prussia, opening Franco-Prussian war.
- 1907 — Emperor of Korea abdicates under Japan's pressure.
- 1918 — German armies begin retreat across Marne river after being defeated in their last great offensive in France during World War I.
- 1928 — King Faud stages coup in Egypt and Parliament is dissolved.
- 1943 — Allied Air Force stages first raid on Rome, Italy, in World War II.
- 1956 — United States and Britain inform Egypt they cannot participate in financing Aswan dam project.
- 1960 — Soviet Union protests to United States over plan to equip West Germany with Polaris missile.
- 1973 — Palestinian gunman seizes 17 hostages in Athens but releases them after being promised safe conduct out of Greece.
- 1975 — US and Soviet astronauts and cosmonauts end their two-day linkup in space.
- 1987 — Landslides and severe flooding in Italy claim 14 lives.
- 1988 — Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government celebrates ninth anniversary of its revolutionary victory.



Lafontaine posing for photographers. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Soviet triumph a plus for Kohl

## Lafontaine puts on brave front

EAST BERLIN, (Reuter): Oskar Lafontaine, the opposition Social Democratic (SPD) candidate for chancellor in the first pan-German election, looked more like a loser than a challenger as he toured an East German building site on Tuesday.

Lafontaine, 46, tried to put a brave face on Chancellor Helmut Kohl's triumph in securing Soviet agreement to a united Germany's membership in Nato — a breakthrough which almost certainly consigns the SPD to defeat in December's polls.

"It's certainly a step forward, especially concerning the commitment to reduce troops. It is a sensible agreement," the opposition leader said of Kohl's accord with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

**Obstacle**

Moscow's agreement to grant Germany full sovereignty from the start of unification and withdrawal its troops from East Germany within four years in exchange for 370,000-man limit on future German armed forces effectively removed the last major international obstacle to unity on Western terms.

It also undermined Lafontaine's charge that Kohl had offended friends and neighbours with his headlong dash towards unification, set to happen little more than a popular uprising.

Even the left-wing daily Tageszeitung headlined: "Kohl triumphs in the Caucasus: Mikhail Gorbachev releases a united Germany into Nato — Breakthrough on all fronts."

Ironically Gorbachev's hardline predecessors tried to oust Kohl when he took office in 1982, lending blatant electoral support to the SPD in the hope of blocking the deployment of Nato missiles in West Germany.

Trailing in the opinion polls, Lafontaine faces six hard months overshadowed by triumphant Kohl appearances at East-West and European summits and by the signing of historic treaties by his conservative rival.

**Benefits**

The chancellor even chalked up political benefits from West Germany's World Cup soccer victory, which added to a mood of patriotic optimism.

Lafontaine's visit to building workers beside the crumbling Berlin Wall was meant to draw the spotlight from Kohl's diplomatic success to the bread-and-butter worries of voters — unemployment, a housing crisis and prices.

But the SPD candidate, returning to politics three months after a would-be assassin stabbed him in the neck, first has to overcome the mistrust of many East Germans alienated by his criticism of the cost of unification and his reluctance to make Berlin the capital of a united Germany.

He got only a lukewarm reception on the building site and silence greeted his arrival at a demonstration by about 300 construction workers on East Berlin's central Alexanderplatz.

"Lafontaine doesn't have the confidence of the people over here the way Kohl has. Kohl got more than expected in Moscow, he has everybody's sup-

port," said Jurgen Fentz, a heating worker at the building site.

Kohl's Christian Democrats scored a surprise landslide victory over the SPD in East German elections in March by campaigning for the fastest possible unification and proposing rapid economic and monetary union with West Germany.

**Pleaded**

Lafontaine, who pleaded for a slower path to unity and warned of the high social cost, said his visit was to learn about the situation in East Germany since the July 1 merger of the German economies.

He called on Monday for a 115 billion mark (\$69 billion) investment programme to improve East German roads, railways, telecommunications, energy supplies and environment.

Asked whether he was still keen to run against Kohl after the chancellor's Soviet triumph, the challenger smiled and said he was relieved no longer to be the front-runner.

"In election campaigns, everything is decided in the last few weeks," he said.

Political analysts said the SPD's only chance of winning was if East Germany's economic collapse triggered mass unemployment and social unrest by December.

But the CDU-led Bonn and East Berlin governments have taken measures to ensure that the real level of unemployment will be concealed by short-term working and short-term credits until after the election, industry sources say.

## West gives East Europe tied aid

LONDON, (Reuter): Almost imperceptibly, Eastern Europe's economic crisis has cast the West in the role of the policeman of world aid, laying down tough political conditions for help that could soon be extended to the unruly democracies of Central America and Africa.

Within the space of 12 months, the Western industrial world has set in place an aid strategy for Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union that is based not just on the need for economic reform but also on a growing catalogue of political demands.

In contrast to the ostensibly non-political conditionality imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its lending to the Third World, Western leaders are now openly linking aid to demands for multi-party democracy and arms cuts.

"There is an increasing interference in the design of policy — and in politics," said Professor Mike Faber, fellow at the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University.

Over the past year, Western governments have seized on the historic chance to recast Eastern Europe into the free market mould and are building on the economic triumph of capitalism over communism to extract far-reaching political reform.

The United States is urging Western nations to adopt the same policies towards Central America, where, to Washington's delight, democracy is taking root; aid donors are also hinting at a crackdown on African military spending.

Economists trace the Western policy shift back to the "Summit of the Arch," the economic gathering of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial democracies in Paris a year ago which set in train a co-ordinated rescue programme for Poland and Hungary.

The United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Canada and Italy adopted a measured tone, stating: "We recognise that the political changes taking place in these countries will be difficult to sustain without economic progress."

But, as the collapse of communism spread like a bushfire through Eastern Europe over the next months, the West's stance grew bolder, leading to the drawing up to five criteria to determine if a country merited support:

- adherence to the rule of law.
- respect for human rights.
- introduction of multi-party political systems.
- holding of free and fair elections.
- development of market-oriented economies.

To demonstrate this was not just a vague shopping list, the Group of 24 (G-24) industrial nations now co-ordinating aid to East Europe decided earlier this month that violent suppression of demonstrations in Romania meant Bucharest did not qualify.

"These criteria send a clear message to reformers and old thinkers alike," US Secretary of State James Baker said at a meeting of the G-24 in Brussels two weeks ago.

"Western assistance is designed to support fundamental political and economic reform. Its purpose is not to maintain the status quo or to avert the problems of the past."

The dividing line has often been extremely thin and Faber said conditionality had been hardening over the past years as the Fund addressed controversial issues such as arms spending.

But the revolution in Eastern Europe tipped the balance when Western nations grew increasingly confident that their free market policies had won out over central planning and as nations became increasingly willing to turn their back on communism.

Economists believe West Germany's recent decision to grant Moscow a \$3 billion credit guarantee was a key factor in persuading Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to lift his objection on Monday to a united Germany's membership of Nato.

But the tough new policy also looks like spreading beyond the confines of Eastern Europe and Moscow's former satellites.

The G-7 went one step further at their Houston summit last week, telling the Soviet Union that the price for Western help was arms cuts and a reduction in support to "nations promoting regional conflict," a clear reference to Moscow's aid for Cuba.

Economists say the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union's economic and political crisis has put the West in a unique position of power to demand change.

While the IMF and World Bank have often been accused of sparking bread riots in Africa and Latin America by urging economic reform in return for credit, they have traditionally sought to avoid overt political interference in policy-making.

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## Nato

## Soviet yield to Germany membership hard choice

MOSCOW, (Reuter): President Mikhail Gorbachev swallowed a bitter pill in yielding a united Germany to Nato, but can expect political and economic benefits to ease his domestic problems.

The Soviet leader accepted a move he had long opposed.

The smiles and handshakes after talks with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in southern Russia on Monday, belied harsh political realities for Gorbachev. After 45 years Moscow was abandoning its Western outpost.

"Gorbachev bowed to what he knew was inevitable, though no one doubts it took courage to say something that only six months ago he insisted was out of the question," one Western diplomat said.

The Soviet President grasped the nettle at a news conference with Kohl, saying with an ironic lapse into German he would accept German membership of Nato in the spirit of "Realpolitik."

Gorbachev, keen to avoid any appearance of weakness at home, presented the concession as an answer to Nato's London summit decision to review nuclear policy and drop its antagonism towards Moscow.

"The last weeks have been spent looking for ways to allow Gorbachev to back down without losing face at home. The London declaration seems to have done the trick. It's relieved him of a burden and improved his chances of Western aid," the diplomat said.

The news conference was shown live on television during working time. But 24 hours later, Gorbachev's decision had still not been spelt out in radio, television or newspaper reports — a measure, perhaps, of its sensitivity at a time of tensions in the Soviet Union.

The concession, clearing the last major obstacle to unity, was laden with symbolic importance for Moscow. While it was unlikely to endanger Gorbachev, already facing domestic opposition to his economic reform plans, it would certainly have galloped some military leaders.

The East German Army, now disintegrating with the collapse of communism, had been the Warsaw Pact's crack frontline force.

The more distant memories of Germany's World War II invasion are also vivid in a country that lost some 20 million people. Television shows films reliving the horrors and, until recently, West Germany was portrayed as a power bent on revenge.

Gen Albert Makgashov, commander of the Volga region, berated Gorbachev's security policy, saying he would compromise Soviet security by allowing a united Germany in Nato.

"There are those on the higher levels who will see it as a defeat," Sergei Sidorov, a commentator with the Defence Ministry newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda said. "But they are no longer the ones influencing policy."

He said he believed the general staff and most Soviet citizens were satisfied they faced no threat from Nato.

At last week's 28th Communist Congress, Gorbachev succeeded in ousting the most vocal party critics of his foreign policy. Former Politburo member Yegor Ligachev, in a final attack, denounced German unification and said Moscow was closing its eyes to West Germany crudely swallowing up East Germany.

The Soviet Union, along with the three other World War Two victors — the United States, Britain and France — would surrender special powers under occupation agreements. Within four years, 360,000 Soviet troops would leave the territory of the East German state they shored up through four decades.

Thousands are already being pulled out of Hungary and Czechoslovakia under bilateral agreements.

Sidorov said he had received many letters in the last year expressing fears about German membership of the 16-member Western military alliance. These, however, had tailed off in recent weeks.

"But the return of the troops does add an extra edge to the (German) question," he said. "Thousands are coming home and there are no houses for them. This is serious for the army."

Kohl agreed to help Moscow meet the cost of stationing its troops in East Germany before they withdrew. Since East Germany adopted the West German mark as its currency in July, the Soviet "Western Group Force" have faced hard currency payments.

But the money would be part of the \$15-billion Western aid package Kohl has asked the European Community to study.

West Germany also guaranteed a five billion mark (\$3 billion) credit to Moscow last month to help meet payment deadlines to West German firms.

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## Art Buchwald

## Trump rarely seen nowadays

I DON'T see Donald Trump as much as I used to. But when I do, it makes my day. The other morning he walked into the coffee shop and took the stool next to mine.

"How is it going," I asked him.

"I can't complain," he replied. "Are you planning on eating the other half of that English muffin?"

"Why do you want to know?"

"I hate to see English muffins go to waste."

"Be my guest," I said. "I hear that you've got trouble with your wife and the banks."

"Don't believe everything you read. I'm only having trouble with my wife because of the banks, and I'm only having trouble with the banks because of my wife."

"It's all part of doing business. The problem with banks is that they beg you to take their money, and when you do they get mad if you can't pay it back. Are you going to eat all that marmalade?"

I handed it to him. "I'd give you some coffee but I have only one cup."

"It's OK," he told me. "I'll drink out of the saucer."

I then said, "So tell me, Donald, where did it all go wrong?"

"I can only blame it on my good name."

"Why your name?"

"The public begged me to put it on everything. Skyscrapers, plazas, Taj Mahals, soccer teams, airlines and heavyweight prize fights. I was within a whisker of their changing New York to Trump City."

Everyone said that Trump was on a roll, but something scary happened on the way to Atlantic City. A chartered bus full of little old ladies in tennis shoes broke down outside Paterson, N.J. The ladies were coming to the Taj Mahal to play the slot machines, and when they didn't show I started drowning."

"Why?"

"Those women were my cash flow for June."

"One bus load?" I spluttered.

"It's obvious that you've never seen little old ladies play slot machines in Atlantic City."

Donald was removing packets of sugar from the bowl and sticking them under his shirt.

"You seem to have a sweet tooth," I remarked.

"They're not for me. I'm taking them back to the Plaza for Room Service."

"Donald, people say that your junk bonds are riskier now than ever before."

"Every bond has a likeness of me printed on it, and that's the same as its being guaranteed by the United States Treasury. The reason the public is dumping on me is because they get pleasure out of seeing a billionaire with wit, charm, yachts, private planes and other intangible assets fall on his keister."

The counterwoman said, "Hey, aren't you Donald Trump?"

Donald answered: "How did you know?"

"You were in here last week and ordered a pot of coffee with 2,000 of those little cream things."

"I always drink my coffee light."

"There was a banker eating here yesterday and he was talking about you," the counterwoman told him.

Donald seemed pleased. "What did he say?"

The counterwoman replied, "He said that you gave the best debts he ever had."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

## QUOTE ME

"I just didn't want to play, and I'd end up losing. I became very complacent about the whole thing. Lyle Alzado is coming back and Sugar Ray Leonard comes back every few years. I don't know how I fit into the comeback scenario, but I'd like to see how it goes. Maybe after tomorrow, I won't want to play again."

— Eliot Teltscher after a comeback to beat Jeff Irango in the Sovran Bank classic tennis tourney.

"When a man has a second-grade education and achieves any goal in the world... talk about the records I've set in music. Talk about those kinds of things. Talk

# Crisis shows power politics still dominate in India

NEW DELHI, July 18, (AP): Prime Minister V.P. Singh's battle with his chief rival in the cabinet showed that old-style patronage still plays a big role in India's political life.

But Singh's victory in the four-day government crisis also demonstrated that India's traditional power politics may be changing as the democracy matures.

In last year's election, Singh ousted the Nehru-Gandhi family, which had governed India virtually since independence in 1947.

Over the weekend, he forced the Deputy Prime Minister, Devi Lal, to rescind the appointment of his son to a powerful local post.

Singh, a self-styled champion of clean politics, emerged from the fight slightly muddled.

"No doubt V.P. Singh's image has suffered. The events have damaged his reputation, but he will come out of it," predicted Bhabani Sengupta, a political commentator for the

Centre for Policy Research.

"What happened was a clash between the old style of politics and the new style. Singh wanted to be democratic, but Devi Lal played the bad old game and he lost," Sengupta said in an interview.

The crisis erupted last Thursday when Devi Lal engineered the reappointment of his eldest son, Om Prakash Chautala, as chief minister of the northern state of Haryana. Chautala, 55, previously held the post, but

was accused of indirect responsibility for election violence in his constituency that killed at least 12 people, including an independent candidate. He was forced to quit May 22, but the violence was never investigated.

News reports said his reappointment was part of a deal between Singh and Devi Lal to end a cold war between them. Denials from both failed to dispel all suspicion.

Challenged by Devi Lal, Singh resorted to a threat to resign. Many commentators

thought it was a ploy, and he retracted the threat within 24 hours.

Before the conflict was resolved, 13 ministers in the 38-member cabinet, or council of ministers, resigned and the workings of government came to a halt. Air Force planes flew leaders from around the nation to New Delhi, where some 100 meetings took place in four days.

The crisis ended Monday when Chautala agreed to step down "for the good of the

party." His father remained in the cabinet, and the 13 ministers who quit were reinstated.

But few believe the game has been decided. The skirmish exposed the deep cracks in the governing Janata Dal Party, which dominates the five-party minority coalition and underlined the personal hostility between Devi Lal and Singh.

"After all this mudslinging, it looks like they are friends again," said Mool Chand Jain, a political analyst in Haryana.

## Sharif: We can cap violence, terror tide

Benazir's rival blames ruling party for weakness

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

PAKISTAN'S top opposition leader and Chief Minister of Punjab Nawaz Sharif has blamed the ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for contributing to a rise in crime and violence in the country. He also said, given the chance, his party can "stem the tide of anarchy all over the country."

In an exclusive interview with *Arab Times*, Nawaz Sharif, blamed the "weakness of the federal government" for a breakdown in law and order and encouraging sectarian strife and drug lords in Pakistan.

He also stressed that mounting concern about prospects of an Indo-Pak war should not detract attention from the Kashmiris' right to self-determination.

"We do not want war nor is it in anybody's interest to continue border tension. But the Kashmir question cannot be solved through bilateral talks alone unless their outcome is India's agreement to a plebiscite in Kashmir," he stated.

In a wide-ranging interview, Nawaz Sharif said widespread violence in Sindh, which claimed more than 100 lives since May, has been "orchestrated by the enemies of Pakistan to divide the nation and distract its attention" from Afghanistan and Kashmir.

Communal violence in southern Pakistani cities of Karachi and Hyderabad has claimed at least 1,000 lives in the past four years. A series of bomb blasts in Hyderabad earlier this week killed at least 57 people and injured 159.

He urged the Pakistani people to "unite against those who sow discord and perpetrate violence and hatred."

"Unfortunately, corruption and nepotism, coupled with incompetence and possible complicity has rendered the government in one part of the country ineffective," he alleged.

Nawaz Sharif said: "If the PPP were to become serious about controlling violence, a combination of political and administrative measures could check subversion and sabotage considerably."

He added: "There is no reason why an effective government, enjoying the goodwill of the people and having the will to improve the situation, cannot control violence and organised crime."

Nawaz Sharif claims rising violence and "lawlessness" have been "inspired by the raising of terrorists to the level of national heroes."

"The PPP's glorification of terrorism and crime has contributed to the present unfortunate state of affairs. We have managed to save the situation in Punjab and given the chance, we can promote ethnic and national harmony and stem the tide of anarchy all over the country."

On Kashmir, Nawaz Sharif said: "We are far from being satisfied over the (federal government's) handling of the Kashmir issue." However, he supports Kashmiris' right to self-determination and, basically, Pakistan's insistence on plebiscite.

India says it is an internal matter and the issue should be settled bilaterally. "Kashmiris are the central factor and without determining their will, there can be no solution," Nawaz Sharif emphasised.

Foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan yesterday began two-day bilateral talks in Islamabad to defuse tension. Sharif said the talks "could be helpful in reducing tension between our two countries."

Organised crime has taken its toll in Pakistan. Drug trafficking has become big business. Nawaz Sharif believes Pakistan needs a "national strategy" to combat drug trafficking.

"The massive profits attained from this illegal business have made some people enormously rich and powerful. This power needs to be curbed," he said, dismissing fears of the possibility of drug lords "taking over Pakistan."

The Punjab government has proposed amending present federal laws to raise maximum penalty for drug trafficking to death. "Our proposals for introducing death penalty for drug traffickers have not received a positive response, so far from the PPP federal government," he stated.

Nawaz Sharif believes "Punjab has always been the vanguard of the struggle for national unity; our differences with PPP are not in any way a reflection of provincial or regional provincial issues."

He stressed that he has tried to "develop a working relationship with the federal government". A committee, which is currently meeting, is trying to work out a "settlement of outstanding federal-provincial issues."

He said relations could improve between Punjab and the federal government "if the PPP gives up its desire to dominate everything and starts recognising the mandate given to us by the people." If this happens, Sharif believes, relations would automatically improve.

He blamed ethnic strife in Pakistan on what he sees as an attempt to "thrust one-party rule over the country" and "emotional exploitation" by some elements.

"Most people, even in the strife torn part, are not motivated by ethnic and communal considerations. They are, above all, Pakistanis, and are committed to Pakistan's Islamic ethos."

"The people at large are neither involved in the ethnic strife nor do they believe in anything other than a united Pakistan," he explained.

Asked if the ruling party enjoys military support, he declined comment but said Pakistan's armed forces have supported the democratic process in the country.

"It is unfair to interpret support for the system as support for any individual," he emphasised.



Nawaz Sharif during a campaign rally in Karachi.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Sikh extremists kill 14:** Sikh extremists staged attacks across India's northern Punjab state, robbing banks and killing 14 people, including three policemen who were escorting a newspaper distribution van, police said yesterday.

Police blamed all the incidents on Sikh radicals who have been waging a bloody campaign since 1983 to create an independent state called Khalistan, or "land of the pure," in Punjab.

In the worst attack early yesterday, six armed militants in a car chased and intercepted the van of the Hind Samachar group of publications near Jagron, 80 miles (130 km) west of Chandigarh, and opened fire, police said.

They said all five occupants of the van, including three police escorts, were killed. (UPI)

**V.P. Singh to lead top team:** India's Prime Minister Vishwanath Singh will pay a four-day visit to the Soviet Union from July 23, his first to a major foreign capital since he came to power last December, an official spokesman said on Wednesday.

Singh, who is also deputy prime minister, will be accompanied by his ministers of finance, commerce and external affairs as well as senior officials, the spokesman said.

Singh emerged victorious on Monday night from a power struggle with his deputy that raised doubts about the longevity of his minority government.

The Soviet Union is India's chief political ally and major arms supplier and India is the leading Soviet trading partner among developing countries.

Trade between the two in 1989 was a record \$4.64 billion, according to Soviet figures.

A five-year trade agreement expires this year and Indian officials say a new agreement could be signed during Singh's visit.

**Repatriation of Afghan refugees:** The repatriation of over three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan, hoped for since the signing of a bilateral agreement between Afghanistan and Pakistan in April 1988, and another two and a half million in Iran, remains stalled due to intractable political situation in Afghanistan, according to a report by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

Submitted to the on-going session of the Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc), the report notes that in the face of worsening financial crisis, the UNHCR has had to contend with the problem of increasing number of refugees.

Malawi, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, and, most recently, Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea all have experienced additional or new influxes. In the early part of 1989, the most serious of these influxes had occurred in the Horn, where over 300,000 Somali refugees entered the Jijiga and Aware districts of south-eastern Ethiopia.

Events in Mauritania and Senegal also caused large-scale displacement of people from both countries last year — with some 50,000 Mauritians arriving in northern Senegal and 20,000 Senegalese arriving in Mauritania.

In the months of 1990, the report noted that the biggest influx had been of almost 150,000 Liberians who had been forced by civil strife in the country to seek refuge in Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea.

## Troops kill 150 Tamil rebels

COLOMBO, July 18, (AP): Government troops pushed through rebel defences in the North and East, killing about 150 Tamil Tiger militants, military officials said today.

They said at least 98 rebels and seven Sinhalese soldiers were killed in two battles yesterday at the village of Manakulam, 40 kilometres (25 miles) north of Vavuniya.

Vavuniya, 215 kilometres (135 miles) north of Colombo, has been a major scene of fighting in the latest round of the war between government forces and separatist rebels of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Also yesterday, helicopter gunships strafed guerrilla positions at Mandur village in the eastern district of Ampara, killing 51 militants, said the officials.

The latest deaths bring to 2,549 the number of combatants killed since June 11, when fighting erupted after a 13-month ceasefire. A large but unknown number of civilians also have been killed.

On Monday, Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said several battalions of troops were moved from the east to the north after the rebels overran a key army camp in the region.

He did not give the number of troops moved. A Sri Lankan army battalion consists of about 850 soldiers.

Tamil Tigers captured the Kokkavil army camp July 11 after killing 46 of the 60 defending soldiers. They also blew up a government-owned television relay station near the camp.

Officials said the reinforcements started their operation yesterday, pushing the rebels back and recapturing a government hospital in Manakulam, just south of Kokkavil.

The advancing soldiers also rescued about 200 soldiers trapped by a rebel siege at an army camp in Manakulam since June 11, said the officials.

Further north, rebels shot and badly damaged a car belonging to the International Committee of the Red Cross that was escorting 12 trucks, said the officials.

The trucks were coming into Jaffna to collect food and medicine for transportation to Jaffna peninsula, officials said. There were no casualties.

At least 290,000 are reported to have left their homes in the Jaffna peninsula and sought refuge in temples, mosques and churches.

The guerrillas have seized control of most of the north and some areas in the east since the latest round of Sri Lanka's seven-year-old civil war recommenced. Fighting started after a Tamil man complained to the Tamil Tigers he was manhandled by Sinhalese police.

Around 100 American, British and Swiss citizens are stranded in Jaffna in the northern province of Sri Lanka because they are unable to leave the area due to security reasons, a security official based in Colombo said.

The Swiss embassy in the island has made an appeal to the Defence Secretary-General Cyril Ranatunge, to help evacuate these stranded people, the official added.



Indian paramilitary personnel patrol in the empty streets of Srinagar yesterday (Reuters wirephoto)

## Troops kill 34 rebels

Indo-Pak talks on Kashmir open in Islamabad

SRINAGAR, July 18, (Agencies): The Indian official charged with controlling the Muslim uprising in the northern Kashmir valley predicted "difficult weeks" ahead today amid reports that soldiers killed 34 militants trying to enter India from Pakistan.

Governor Girish Saxena, the New Delhi-appointed administrator of Indian ruled Jammu and Kashmir state, said Muslim rebels fighting for independence from India had stepped up activity since mid-June, but "we are checking them up, and over 100 Pakistani-trained militants have been arrested during the last month."

Despite the number of rebels captured, the governor said huge amounts of arms and ammunition were thought to have entered the mostly Muslim Kashmir valley in recent weeks along with substantial numbers of fighters. "We may be heading for difficult weeks," he added.

Saxena's remarks came in an interview hours after Indian troops ambushed a group of Kashmiri militants last night as they tried to infiltrate across the border from Pakistan.

Officials said the soldiers killed 21 of the rebels during the ambush. Soldiers chasing the rest of the infiltrators killed another 13 militants in clashes last night and today.

The death toll was the heaviest between militants and Indian forces along the border since the Muslim separatist movement against Hindu-dominated India gained widespread support in mid-January. Officials said the rebels were carrying AK-47 rifles, light machine-guns and a grenade launcher.

Residents of the Kashmir valley staged a general strike today to protest talks in Islamabad between India and Pakistan apparently focusing on reducing tensions over Kashmir.

Authorities imposed a curfew on most of Srinagar today to prevent violence related to the strike, which was called by the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, the leading Muslim militant group fighting for independence.

The JKLF said no talks between India and Pakistan were acceptable unless the people of Kashmir were equal partners.

In New Delhi, the government announced that Jammu and Kashmir state, would be placed under presidential rule beginning on Thursday following the end of gubernatorial rule in the state.

"A situation has arisen in which the government of that state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of India," a proclamation issued today said.

Crowds defied an army-enforced curfew in Srinagar, shouting "Kashmiris are not sheep, we belong in the talks" and "we will fight to the last man," witnesses said.

Militants exploded four bombs and exchanged fire with security forces in several places in Srinagar last evening.

Meanwhile, foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan held formal talks in Islamabad today aimed at defusing tension between the two countries over the Kashmir issue.

External Affairs Secretary N. Uchhand Dubey led the Indian delegation at the talks while Foreign Secretary Tanvir Ahmed Khan headed the Pakistan delegation.

Approached by a correspondent after the first round, lasting over three hours, Dubey said: "No comments about trend or contents of discussions." Asked about the atmosphere at the talks he said "it was all right."

Following the talks Dubey called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan at the presidency and exchanged views with him on Indo-Pak relations.

## Benazir outmanoeuvred

Fundamentalists push for Islamic law

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan, July 18, (AP): Fundamentalists have won a round against secularism, slipping a bill on Islamic law through the senate while the government wasn't looking, and liberal Pakistanis worry about what lies ahead.

Critics of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto say she was outmanoeuvred. The few senators belonging to her left-of-centre Pakistan People's Party, including her law minister, were absent when the bill passed unanimously in May.

Her government, the first in a modern Islamic nation led by a woman, is expected to stall until the senate elections of March 1991 in hopes of winning control of the chamber. The Pakistan People's Party controls the National Assembly, where the real power lies.

"It depressed me immensely," Anna Piracha, a friend of Benazir and a National Assembly member, said of the senate action. She added, however: "There are many ways we can tackle it."

Opponents of the Sharia bill fear the power it will give Islamic clerics, who would interpret law according to their reading of the Holy Quran, the Muslim holy book. Sharia is the term used for Islamic law.

Women have been particularly vocal, concerned about losing what little ground they have gained in recent years. By Islamic law and tradition, women are subservient to men.

Piracha and Sher Afgan, former minister of state for parliamentary affairs, spoke of several options, mostly designed to stall the bill in the National Assembly.

It must be introduced in the assembly within 90 days of senate passage. Benazir's 19-month-old government is expected to refer it either to a committee or the Islamic Ideology Council, which her predecessor, Gen. Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, established to debate theological questions.

Benazir often has agreed to a form of Islamic law on condition Pakistan's religious leaders reach a consensus, which many in her party consider unlikely.

Supporters and critics alike say Benazir must take care with Islamic fundamentalists, whose violent riots in 1977 eventually brought down her father, prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

## Talks

(Continued from Page 1)

independence or a union with Pakistan.

At least 716 people have been killed in Kashmir since January.

In May, bitter rhetoric between the two countries and troop movements along their borders raised fears they would go to war a fourth time.

In the past month, however, the tension has eased. India has withdrawn about 50,000 soldiers from its borders with Pakistan in the south-eastern state of Rajasthan.

Despite that move, Pakistan contends India has redeployed about 100,000 soldiers to Jammu and Kashmir, and to the state of Punjab, where Sikh militants are continuing their violent campaign for independence.

Several weeks ago, India reportedly handed Pakistan a list of "confidence-building" proposals.

Khan said earlier that the Islamabad talks will attempt to revise those proposals, including an Indian offer of joint patrolling along their borders.

Khan said "a minimum level of trust" has to be achieved before Indian and Pakistani soldiers can stand shoulder to shoulder along the borders.

Pakistan contends that people living in Kashmir should be allowed to vote on whether to join India or Pakistan. India has rejected that proposal and accused Pakistan of encouraging the Muslim militants.

The two countries have twice gone to war over Kashmir, in 1948 and again in 1965. They both claim ownership of the former princely state. They fought a third war in 1971 over Bangladesh or what was then East Pakistan.

The United States and the Soviet Union have urged New Delhi and Islamabad to resolve the latest dispute peacefully.

Pakistan proposed the talks between the foreign secretaries, the first formal high-level meeting between the two sides since the crisis erupted, in response to a set of "confidence-building measures" put forward by India last month.

The seven-point Indian package contains offers to exchange information about military exercises and increase contact between the military authorities of the two sides. Pakistan has said the measures offered nothing new.

Dubey said: "We are convinced that this is going to be in the interest of our peoples and is vital for the stability, peace, prosperity and security of the region."

## PHILIPPINES

# Aftershocks rock Philippines; toll 311

World-wide aid; explosives used to clear the roads

MANILA, July 18, (UPI): Strong aftershocks at a massive earthquake that killed at least 311 people rocked the northern Philippines today, sending rescue workers scrambling from crushed buildings where hundreds of people remained trapped, officials said.

An aftershock measuring 6.3 on the open-ended Richter scale struck at 6:15 am followed by another at 6:29 am that registered at 5.9, officials said.

More than 200 aftershocks have rocked the area since Monday's 7.7 temblor rumbled across the main Philippine island of Luzon, officials

said. The quake, centred in Cabanatuan, 60 miles (100 km) north of Manila, was the deadliest to strike the Philippines since August 1976, when an earthquake and tidal wave killed more than 3,000 people on the southern island of Mindanao.

The military civil defence said the quake killed 311 people and injured at least 682.

The quake leveled 1,150 houses and severely damaged at least 5,300 more, leaving about 60,500 people homeless, the Department of Social Welfare said.

Rescue efforts were concentrated on the devastated towns of Cabanatuan and Baguio, where about 400 people were reported trapped in a half-dozen luxury hotels and factories.

A spokesman for President Corason Aquino, meanwhile, cited reports from workers who said they believed about 150 people had been killed in a building housing six factories in the Baguio processing export zone.

Rescuers have been hampered by numerous landslides that closed the road from Manila to Baguio.

Workers used explosives today afternoon in a bid to clear the last of 24 landslides from a main road to Baguio, hoping to open the route to rescue vehicles by nightfall.

Television news reports showed the hotels in the mountain resort 120 miles (200 km) north of Manila crumbled like accordions.

About 60 people were trapped inside the Hyatt terraces and another 40 were stuck in the Nevada Hotel, officials said.

Rescuers have given up hope of finding more survivors in the rubble of the six-storey Christian College of the Philippines, where 49 students are thought to have been crushed to death, officials said. Workers pulled 179 people from the ruins yesterday.

"I'm afraid we won't be able to find any more people alive in (the school)," said Cabanatuan Mayor Honorato Perez. "There are no more indications there is still life in there."

Relief operations were briefly suspended following the strong aftershocks today. Workers fled to safer ground, fearing the heavily damaged buildings would crumble further.

Officials said 28 buildings had collapsed in Baguio, including four luxury hotels and 132 houses.

Power and communications remained out in the city. Rescue workers, who described the devastated area as a "war zone," said food, water and fuel were dangerously scarce.

Officials appealed for donations of blood, food, blankets and money to help victims in the stricken area.

More than \$575,000 in pledges of financial aid poured in from Japan, the United States, Australia and Korea, officials said. Hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of medicine and rescue equipment were also donated.

Aquino travelled to Dagupan city in Pangasinan province and Baguio, where she set up a centre to co-ordinate relief efforts and asked students to leave the city to make room for rescue workers.

A 21-member US search and rescue team, supported by search dogs, arrived by helicopter in Baguio to join more than 100 workers searching for survivors in the piles of concrete and steel, a US military spokesman said.

Rescue teams from Japan and Europe joined workers in quake-stricken areas today, officials said. The foreign teams recently were in Iran to assist rescues in a quake of the same magnitude that killed an estimated 40,000 to 50,000 people.

The airport in Baguio was heavily damaged in the quake, forcing rescue planes to land in nearby La Union province and workers to be ferried by helicopters into the devastated city.

Rescuers in Baguio said most of the people they managed to pull from the piles of concrete and twisted metal were dead.

"Workers are extracting more dead than alive," a television reporter said.

The office of civil defence said 311 people were confirmed dead and 682 injured in Monday's quake, which registered 7.7 on the Richter scale. The figure included 82 people reported killed in Baguio.

Officials of a special industrial export processing zone in Baguio said up to 800 workers and some foreigners might still be trapped beneath the rubble of five factories. (Reuters)

**Video footage show panic:** Videotape footage taken seconds after a powerful earthquake shook the northern Philippines showed panic and destruction in a rural town near the quake's epicentre.

A group of amateur video photographers were making a documentary film of the town of Cabaldon, about 100 kms (160 miles) northwest of Manila when the earthquake struck at about 4:30 pm (0730 GMT) Monday.



Philippine military cadets remove the first survivor from the Nevada Hotel in Baguio City on Tuesday. Twenty people are still trapped inside the collapsed hotel after an earthquake, many still alive. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Scene

## Search abandoned

No voices from any survivor

CABANATUAN, Philippines, July 18, (Agencies): Philippine and US rescue teams on Wednesday began lifting concrete slabs in order to remove the bodies of dozens of children crushed to death in a quake-shattered school.

A chemical preservative was poured on one body to quell the stench wafting along the narrow street in front of the devastated school in Cabanatuan city, 90 km (55 miles) north of Manila.

Philippine and American rescue workers wore surgical masks or handkerchiefs tied around their faces to abate the smell of death coming from bodies still pinned under mounds of concrete slabs piled on top of one another like a flattened accordion.

Inert legs, arms and torsos caked in dried blood still protruded from the wrecked six-storey school building which collapsed in a pile of rubble when the earthquake measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale struck on Monday.

Cranes were moved up to the pile of rubble which used to house the Christian College of the Philippines and rescuers scrambled clear as the first concrete slab was lifted.

"They'll pick the whole thing up and see what's underneath so they can get the bodies out," said US Marine Lance Corporal Paul Vanek, 20, from Houston, Texas.

He is a member of a US Marine combat engineering team from Okinawa, Japan, which was called in to help the rescue operation. More than 50 Americans were sent to help rescue workers in digging out survivors from the shattered school.

Vanek said his team may move to the resort city of Baguio, hardest hit by the tremor, because there is

little hope of finding any more survivors in the wrecked school.

"I think they've given up hope that people are still alive," he said.

Rescuers had abandoned their search for dozens of children trapped in the school, saying they believed they were all dead.

"We are lifting the slabs because we have to retrieve all the dead bodies now," said Cabanatuan city police chief Lieutenant-Colonel Rogelio de Joya.

US and Philippine military engineers prepared to bulldoze the mountain of rubble in which the children — pleading for help and calling out to God — had been entombed for two nights.

"We have not heard voices from any survivors since last night. I think they have all gone to sleep," said Manuel Liwag, a member of the family that owns the school.

"We cannot hear or find any more survivors. We don't think there's anyone else alive in the building," medical volunteer Dominick Dimacale said.

At least 45 children were crushed to death when the quake toppled the 25-year-old building on Monday. Rescuers using only chisels, hammers and drills pulled out more than 100 others alive, many with bloodied faces and broken arms and legs.

The office of civil defence said about 150 others were still trapped in the rubble as of Tuesday. But Cabanatuan Mayor Honorato Perez said he did not believe there would be more than 50.

"Do not die, you will live," Bernardo Malaluan, 15, yelled to a moaning friend beneath the ruins of the six-storey Christian College of the Philippines.



A US Navy serviceman brings a cutting torch to another navy rescue worker attempting to remove an earthquake victim from the Philippine Christian College yesterday. About 40 people are still believed trapped inside the college, which was hit by an earthquake on July 16. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Study shows a decrease in earthquakes around the world

WASHINGTON, July 18, (Kuna): The surface of the Earth is not suddenly crumbling underfoot with repeated earthquakes, it just seems that way, according to American geologists.

The earthquake that rocked the Philippines on Monday was the latest in a string of devastating quakes in the last two years ranging from Armenia to San Francisco to Iran.

But long-term statistics do not show big quakes happening more often, according to

these experts. "I do not see an increase in earthquakes around the world," said Waverly Person, chief of the earthquake information service for the US Geological Survey in a statement to the foreign press.

According to his office's records, which he says provide trustworthy information going back to 1900, there have been an average of 18 major earthquakes around the world every year. But in the last decade that average has

actually fallen to 11.

This year, however, has seen more activity than 1989, he said. "So far this year we have had 11 major earthquakes compared to six last year," Person said.

The US Geological Survey classifies any earthquake as "major" if it measures 7 or greater on the Richter scale. Under that scale, every increase of one magnitude — say from 7 to 8 — indicates a tenfold increase in the actual strength of a quake.

## US help shows bases dilemma

CABANATUAN CITY, Philippines, July 18, (AP): A convoy of trucks rolled into this city from a US military base a day after a devastating earthquake, and troops joined the search for survivors trapped in a collapsed school.

The US relief effort began one month before US and Philippine officials resume talks on extending the lease for six US bases in the country. The current lease expires in September 1991.

The United States flew in a 20-man disaster relief team to help with rescue efforts.

The search-and-rescue team was flown to Clark air base, north of Manila, from Andrews air force base in Maryland.

US helicopters and C-130 transport planes helped ferry in equipment and medical supplies to assist more than 600 people injured in Monday's quake.

US officials at Clark said 600 pints of blood were being sent to the northern city of Baguio and the town of Cabanatuan, both badly hit by the quake.

After Monday's earthquake, the Americans arrived promptly in Cabanatuan city, equipped with cranes, a full field hospital, plasma and trained engineers.

Before they arrived, the rescue effort was conducted by volunteers who had little more than jackhammers and muscles to move tons of debris.

The US embassy today said it was flying in an earthquake expert from Virginia, Dr Fred Krimgold, as well as fiber optic gear to allow rescuers to see if anyone remains alive amid the rubble of collapsed buildings.

The Philippines often relies on US resources, especially during disasters. Military planes from Clark Air base and the Cubi point naval air station fly maritime search and rescue missions.

Air force meteorologists share information with the Philippine weather service on approaching typhoons. About 20 of them strike this island nation every year.

But critics say the Philippines' reliance on its former colonial power inhibits national development by fostering a "colonial mentality," where Filipinos look up to the Americans and down to themselves.

Turning to the Americans for help offends national pride.

The government again had to send an SOS to Clark and Subic for the much needed equipment to prevent an even higher toll of casualties," wrote columnist Alvin Capino in the Daily Globe newspaper.

For many Philippine nationalists, the first step in achieving "genuine independence" and sovereignty is to close the bases, regardless of the price.

Just like any child who will ultimately move out of his parents' home and live his own life, we Filipinos need to live our own lives too," said Socorro Diokno, chairman of the anti-bases coalition. "If in the process we stumble and fall, then we just have to get up and heal our bruises."

Other nations, including Japan, West Germany, Thailand and Australia, sent aid to the Philippines after the earthquake. But the presence of American forces in the country meant US help came faster.

When the quake struck the resort of Baguio, crumbling four luxury hotels, US troops from nearby Camp John Hay joined in the rescue within hours. US aircraft flew medical supplies to the isolated mountain city hours after the temblor.

The fact remains that the Americans were the first to arrive... and that they spelled the difference between life and death for the victims," wrote commentator Luis Beltran in the Manila Standard.

In Cabanatuan city, 100 kms (60 miles) north of Manila, the Americans arrived with cranes, medical personnel, a field hospital and trained engineers.

Beforehand, rescue operations were largely in the hands of untrained volunteers. No one appeared in charge.

When volunteers tried to drill into the massive concrete slabs of debris, survivors would cry out that the effort was only shifting the rubble onto them.

Events of the past few days seem to support the view that Filipinos will remain psychologically dependent on the United States as long as the bases stay.

The really ironic thing is when (the quake struck) ... the first people the radio stations thought of were the Americans with their helicopters," Beltran said.

## Sidelights

**Queue for copters:** Thousands of anxious survivors of a powerful earthquake scrambled to get onto US and Philippine military helicopters on Wednesday in an effort to escape the devastated northern city of Baguio.

"Tell my sister in Manila I'm okay," shouted Australian tourist Anna Conte as an overcrowded helicopter lifted off from the buckled runway, ruined when an earthquake rocked the north Philippines three days ago.

Cut off from the capital some 200 km (120 miles) to the south, Anna is one of the thousands of survivors of Monday's quake stuck in the north with no water, no shelter, little food and a long wait to get out.

Baguio bore the brunt of Monday's earthquake, which, at 7.7 on the Richter scale, was the worst to hit the Philippines for 14 years.

About 600 people died in the north so far. Almost half died in Baguio, most of them smothered but some burned to death as they lay helpless in the rubble of the factory where they worked.

"We have only what we stand up in," said Al Sahm Marzooq Hamed of Saudi Arabia who escaped down knotted sheets from the crumbling Hyatt Hotel clad only in his underwear and a pair of leather slippers.

Local villagers gave Hamed and his friend Al Kabour Abdulla trousers and sweaters, barely enough to keep them warm in the highland resort where temperatures can drop to 45 degrees Fahrenheit (7 degrees Celsius) at night.

Many of the throngs at the damaged airport were local people, fearing aftershocks and fleeing the wreckage of their homes to relatives in other parts of the country.

Other townspeople continued to help soldiers sift patiently through the shattered concrete of about 28 large buildings badly damaged in the quake in search of survivors.

About 60 victims are believed still trapped under the Hyatt, 40 at the Nevada Hotel and another 90 in smaller hotels dotted around the town, government spokesman Tomas Gomez told reporters.

Two sisters from just outside Baguio struggled to carry an icon of the Virgin Mary, almost half their size, onto the helicopters.

Teenagers pleaded to be allowed to take their "boomboxes," or large portable stereos, onboard the overcrowded chopper.

The Canadian embassy told it would be two, three days until they can do anything, anything at all," said Inelda Aguilu, 47, holidaying in Baguio with her sister and Canadian brother-in-law when the quake struck.



A Hungarian woman grieves near her son, injured when the Hyatt hotel collapsed. (Reuters wirephoto)

**Hundreds still trapped:** Hundreds of workers and foreign managers and technicians remain trapped beneath the rubble of five quake-hit factories in the northern city of Baguio. Industry Department officials said on Wednesday.

Rescue workers reported that the lack of heavy equipment was hampering rescue operations more than 40 hours after the earthquake, measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale, toppled dozens of buildings and bridges in the northern Philippines.

Officials of a special industrial export processing zone in Baguio said up to 800 workers and some foreigners might still be trapped beneath the rubble of five factories. (Reuters)

فكرنا اننا لنجوز

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Egypt begins unravelling 30 years of socialism

CAIRO, July 18, (Reuters): Egypt is testing the murky waters of privatisation but has not yet decided whether it is safe to take the plunge.

First it was a hotel, then some dairies. Now hundreds of small firms set up by the government in the late 1970s and 1980s are headed for the auction block.

But the fate of the huge industrial complex established by the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser in the 1960s — the emotional heart of one of

the Third World's largest public sectors — has yet to be decided.

"I think we are on the verge of major economic change," said one Egyptian economist. "But there are some people still making it difficult for ideological reasons."

Advocates believe privatisation will tap the resources of investors and millions of Egyptians working abroad to inject some vigor into Egypt's stagnating economy.

As a cautious first step the government has announced it will reduce its share in some 245 joint ventures set up with the private sector in the last 15 years.

Capital would be increased by issuing new shares to Egyptian and foreign investors and ploughing proceeds back into the firm.

In May the government declared it would sell around 2,000 small companies owned by local governments. The

government believes the two sets of sales could bring it as much as \$1 billion (\$400 million) a year.

The governorate projects, from bee hives and chicken farms to taxi firms and bakeries, are to be sold in stages over two years to avoid saturating the market, perhaps by public auction.

"Unfortunately we have forgotten the purpose for which these projects were formed," Prime Minister Atef Sedki said in a recent interview in Al

Mussawar magazine.

"It would have been better to leave them to the citizen because he is the most able to measure their worth and take care of them," he said.

Others say the government is moving too slowly and that many of the projects are barely worth the land they are sitting on.

"If they find buyers for many of these things I would be surprised," said Khaled Sherif, an Egyptian economist

at the American University of Cairo.

Sherif and other economists would prefer to see the government attack head-on the nearly 400 companies that were formed in the socialist heyday of the 1960s and early 1970s.

The government has committed itself to selling at least some of the firms, but declared it would not let go of big projects like the aluminium plant at Naga Hamadi, steel mills and textile plants.

## Consumer prices jump in States

WASHINGTON, July 18, (AP): US consumer prices, fuelled by sharp increases in food and gasoline costs, shot up 0.5 per cent in June, more than double the rate of the past two months, the government said today.

The unexpectedly steep rise in the Labour Department's consumer price index followed moderate 0.2 per cent increases for both April and May.

Through the first six months of the year, consumer prices have been rising at an annual rate of 5.9 per cent, well above the 4.6 per cent for all of 1989.

The sharp rise in consumer inflation in June was sure to worry analysts, who had been predicting a more modest rise of 0.3 per cent.

**Inflation**  
Analysts had expected inflation to continue to moderate as prices recovered from the first of the year, when prices soared following a cold snap sent the costs of fruits, vegetables and energy skyward.

In June, grocery store food prices, which had fallen in each of the past two months, rose 1 per cent in June as prices went up for all of the major food categories, the Labour Department said.

There was a sharp turnaround in the price of fruits and vegetables, which rose 1.5 per cent after falling 2.4 per cent in May.

**Food**

Fresh fruit prices rose 2.2 per cent after seasonal adjustment, while fresh vegetables, which had increased 29.2 per cent in the first two months of the year and then fallen 23.6 per cent in the next three months, advanced 1.4 per cent in June, the report said.

**Pork**

Pork prices, up 4.0 per cent in June, have risen sharply over the past nine months, climbing at an annual rate of 26.2 per cent during that period. Poultry prices were up 1.3 per cent while dairy prices, after dropping the past three months, rose 0.2 per cent in June.

**Food overall** was up 0.7 per cent.

Gasoline prices, which generally increase during the driving season of the summer months, jumped 2.5 per cent last month after falling 1.6 per cent in May.

**Energy**

Energy costs overall were up 0.6 per cent. The price of natural gas shot up 2.7 per cent, but fuel oil dropped 4.2 per cent and electricity fell 1.6 per cent.

Prices for items outside the volatile food and energy sectors jumped 0.4 per cent in June. Analysts consider this so-called "core" rate a better indicator of underlying inflation pressures in the economy.

New car prices edged down 0.2 per cent, the fifth straight decline in the face of sluggish sales.

**Clothing**

Clothing costs, which jumped sharply earlier in the year when a warm February got spring sales off at an early start, fell 0.1 per cent last month.

The price of men's and women's clothing both fell, 0.2 per cent and 0.1 per cent respectively, but the cost of clothing for infants and toddlers climbed 0.5 per cent. The fall in clothing costs had been expected as merchants marked down summer sale clothing.

Medical care costs soared 0.7 per cent in June for the fifth straight month, pushing those costs 9.0 per cent higher than a year ago.

The various changes put the index for all consumer prices at 129.9 in June. That means a hypothetical selection of goods and services costing \$100 in the 1982-84 base period cost \$129.90 last month, up from the \$124.10 a year ago.

**Housing**

Housing construction fell in June for the fifth consecutive month, pushing the level of building activity to its lowest point since the last recession.

The Commerce Department reported a drop of 2.3 per cent in housing starts last month, with new homes and apartments being built at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.18 million units.

The June decline followed decreases of 0.9 per cent in May, 6.9 per cent in April, 12.2 per cent in March and 5.1 per cent in February.

It marked the first time housing construction has fallen for five months in a row since a string of declines from July through November in 1981. It pushed the level of building activity to its lowest point since October 1982.

Since interest-sensitive sectors such as housing normally turn down in advance of a general slump in the economy, the prolonged weakness in housing this year has heightened speculation about a possible recession.

## Subroto hopeful of \$18 target

Opec optimism over price hike

CARACAS, Venezuela, July 18, (Agencies): The upcoming Opec ministerial conference will concentrate on bringing oil prices back up to \$18 a barrel, making quarrels over quotas a "secondary" issue, Opec Secretary-General Subroto said yesterday.

Speaking at the Fourth Venezuelan Oil Congress, Subroto said ministers of the 13 Opec nations have agreed that their main objective at the next conference, which starts July 25 in Geneva, will be raising the reference price of the Opec basket of crudes.

"All other considerations will have to take second place until we reach \$18," he said. "With the consensus that has been reached prior to the conference, we hope to restore the reference price."

Reports from the Middle East indicate that Saudi Arabia, Opec's biggest producer, might accept a temporary reduction in its output to help boost prices.

## Oil imports break record

US demand rises

WASHINGTON, July 18, (Reuters): US oil imports surged to a record 49.9 per cent of domestic demand in the first half of this year, the American Petroleum Institute reported today.

US reliance on imported oil was accelerated by a continued decline in domestic production, which fell by six per cent to 7.3 million barrels daily from the first half of 1989, and a strong buildup of crude oil inventories, the industry trade group said.

Domestic production in the first half of the year was the lowest in 29 years, down nearly 1.7 million barrels per day since 1985.

The previous peak level for imports was 48.8 per cent of demand, set in the first six months of 1977.

The API said imports averaged 8.4 million barrels per day.

Imports have climbed by nearly 80 per cent, or 3.7 million barrels daily, since the first half of 1985.

"Falling domestic crude oil production has become the main force at work in expanding the gap between domestic supply and demand," the API said in its monthly statistical review.

The API said Alaska production, which accounts for about a quarter of all US oil production, fell about 90,000 barrels daily in the first half of the year and production in other states was off 6.3 per cent or 370,000 barrels per day to a total of 5.5 million barrels per day.

## British to export privatization skills

LONDON, July 18, (AP): British privatisation experts say they are joining forces to share their knowledge with Eastern bloc and other countries seeking to sell off their state-owned industries.

"With the collapse of the communist bloc, it now seems that there is scarcely a single country, with the temporary exception of Albania and Cuba, which is not seeking to draw upon the British experience of privatization," the council's acting director, Peter Young, said today.

Leading British investment bankers, lawyers, stockbrokers and accountants have formed the British Privatisation Export Council, Young said.

He said it was a response to heavy and increasing demand for assistance in privatization, a policy in which Prime Minister

Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government has been a pioneer.

Since 1979, the government has sold off £28.3 billion (\$51.5 billion) worth of state-owned companies, including British Airways and the gas, water and telephone companies. Next in line is electricity.

The government believes industries perform better in a competitive environment, where they must answer to shareholders.

Other countries undergoing major privatisation programmes include Hungary, Portugal and Argentina.

The council will act as a clearing house for overseas requests for help, directing applicants to bankers, lawyers and other experts in privatization.

The United Arab Emirates and Kuwait have also said they are willing to start cutting daily production. The UAE has been pumping about 2 million barrels per day, nearly doubled its Opec assigned quota of 1.1 million bpd.

Overproduction by Opec members has led to a 30 per cent slide in prices. Opec currently accounts for more than a third of world crude, and close to 80 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves are located in Opec countries.

Subroto's speech dashed the hopes of the Venezuelan state oil monopoly Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA), which is openly chafing against Opec restrictions.

Opec will bear the major responsibility for meeting future world demand and must plan for it, Subroto said.

But, oil-consuming nations, financial institutions and oil companies must join efforts by Opec to increase production to avoid future shortages and sharp price increases, Subroto said.

Subroto said the challenge of meeting growing demand would also call for a high degree of co-operation and trust between Opec and non-Opec producers to create a cost-effective system that would allow economic growth in both developed and developing countries and would also be compatible with the environment.

"We are all, developed and developing countries, in the same boat. We should ensure therefore that we all row in unison," he said.

Subroto earlier told a press conference that there appeared to be a consensus among the organisation's member countries to strictly adhere to assigned production quotas in an effort to raise oil prices to the \$18 a barrel.

The secretary-general told reporters: "The important thing right now is how to achieve the price that we have agreed already — the minimum reference price of \$18."

"Everything is subordinate to reaching that objective. So I think that in the coming conference, there is already a kind of converging view that to reach the minimum price, the agreement on quotas that we reached in November 1989 should be sustained," he said.

Asked to comment on speculation regarding a possible elimination of the production quota system, Subroto said this certainly was not under consideration for the time being.

However, the Opec secretary-general said he did not know if the quota system should be held for another five years.

Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Shakshouki has urged independent producers to support Opec efforts to stabilise the world oil market.

He told an African Petroleum Producers' Association meeting in Tripoli last night that some non-Opec exporters shared the blame with certain Opec members for the 30 per cent decline in oil prices during the first half of this year.



Doll with a difference

Traditional Russian matryoshka dolls with a difference. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev (left) holds a placard saying first president and four of his predecessors as Communist Party leaders Leonid Brezhnev (2nd left), Nikita Khrushchev (third), Josef Stalin (fourth) and Vladimir Lenin (right). The dolls available at street vendors in Moscow's famous Arbat street, are a hot commodity among Western artists. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 'Fed will act to arrest decline'

WASHINGTON, July 18, (AP): Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan sent a strong signal today that the US central bank will act decisively to keep the country out of a recession by lowering interest rates once policymakers agree on a deficit-reduction package.

In his strongest comments to date, Greenspan sought to reassure members of Congress that the Fed will do its part in any effort to significantly attack the huge federal budget deficit.

Many Republican critics of tax increases have charged that President George Bush's reversal on the tax question threatens to push the country into a recession by increasing the tax burden at a time when the economy is already growing at a sluggish rate.

However, Greenspan, delivering the Fed's mid-year economic report today, said that "a major cut in the budget is unquestionably the right thing to do."

While Greenspan said that the specific details of any Fed response to a deficit-reduction package would depend on the performance of the economy at the time, he left no doubt that the central bank would move to offset the adverse effects on growth from government spending cuts and tax increases by lowering interest rates.

"Major, substantive, credible cuts in the budget deficit would present the Federal Reserve with a situation that would call for a careful reconsideration of its policy," Greenspan said. "I can only offer the assurance that the Federal Reserve will act, as it has in the past, to endeavor to keep the economic expansion on track."

The administration on Monday dramatically boosted its estimate of the size of the 1991 budget deficit to \$168.8 billion, far above the \$64 billion deficit limit set by the Gramm-Rudman Balanced Budget law.

In presenting the new estimate, Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and other administration officials said they were counting on the Fed to do its part to lower interest rates.

much evidence being based on hearsay which would be inadmissible in a court of law.

"Our action is aimed at not only exposing the grave injustice done in our particular case but also at improving the British system of government inspection for the benefit of others," said Mohamed Al Fayed, the chairman of the House of Fraser holdings.

"I do not believe that any other civilised country in the world would sanction such a system," he said. "It is quite simply an affront to justice."

## Business News Briefs

**Tuffier to file for bankruptcy:** The chairman of France's biggest independent stockbroker said yesterday that he was filing for bankruptcy after talks to rescue the ailing firm had failed.

Thierry Tuffier, the head of Tuffier-Ravet, told Reuters that the rest of his group, which is involved in money market trading, government bond underwriting, corporate finance and real estate, would not be affected.

France's bourse authorities suspended the broking operation last Friday because it was unable to pay its bills. (Reuters)

**German shares rally:** The West German share market rallied yesterday in a late response to Monday's agreement with the Soviet Union which cleared the way to Nato membership of a sovereign and single German state.

"Germany is getting stronger. It is now a sovereign power," said share market analyst Kiran Bhojani with M.M. Warburg-Brenemann in Hamburg.

In Frankfurt, the DAX index of 30 blue chips rose more than two per cent in the first 15 minutes of active trading which especially favoured financial and chemical stocks.

Profit-taking trimmed some of those early gains, but the index still finished at 1,966.04, up 37.04 points or 1.9 per cent from Tuesday's close. (Reuters)

**US warns of trade chaos:** US Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter said yesterday that the European Community must "bite the bullet" and cut farm subsidies or world trade could be plunged into chaos.

He said EC farm negotiators at crucial Gatt talks on liberalising world trade starting in Geneva next week had to change their tough position on export subsidies and told them not to employ stalling tactics.

"The community will simply have to bite the bullet in the export subsidy arena," Yeutter said. "I plead with my community colleagues to achieve a broader negotiating mandate, otherwise we are heading for a major confrontation in Geneva." (Earlier story Page 16)

**Ford to build plant in Hungary:** The Ford Motor Company announced on Monday it would set up an \$80 million parts plant in Hungary.

Bruce Blythe, Ford Europe's vice-president, told a news conference the plant would produce 3.2 million ignition coils and fuel pumps a year starting in 1992, to be used in Ford vehicles produced in Germany, Britain, Spain, Belgium and Portugal.

The scheme, approved by the Hungarian government, would enable Ford to import cars to Hungary (funded by the export sales of the components produced at the plant). (Reuters)

## Foreign acquisitions

### French firms expanding

BRUSSELS, Belgium, July 18, (AP): French state-owned industries have embarked on a programme of aggressive expansion throughout Europe, according to a new report released yesterday.

In 1989 there were 40 French state acquisitions of European targets, valued at 2.67 billion European Currency Units (\$3.34 billion), according to European Deal review, published by the US consultancy group Translink.

This amounted to 28 per cent of the total value of all French acquisitions in Europe, the periodical said.

"France is in effect nationalising Europe," commented Mark Dixon, the editor of the review. In the first quarter of 1990 alone the figure was 2.52 billion Ecus (\$13.5 billion), or 58 per cent of all French acquisition in Europe. The figure was swollen by car maker Renault's reciprocal stakes in Volvo.

Some countries are considering taking action to protect their industries against the state-backed takeover binge. Britain warned in March that it may have to take special measures against French state-backed takeovers.

**Little activity on KD market:** Little activity was seen on the Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market yesterday, dealers said.

Some banks reported no business at all in either short dates or fixed dates, and rates were basically unchanged. It was expected that short dates might ease in the next few days as government salaries began to work their way into the system, said one dealer.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 0.28985/95 to the dollar. (Reuters)

**Riyal rates quiet:** The Saudi riyal interbank deposit market was quiet yesterday, as operators covered positions ahead of the weekend, dealers said.

The market was fairly cautious due to general expectations that rates might ease further in the coming weeks, said one dealer. Little activity was seen in either short dates or fixed dates, and rates remained largely unchanged, he added.

## Sudan to lay off workers

Budget plan to save \$130m

KHARTOUM, July 18, (Kuna): The military government of General Omer Al Bashir has decided to drop 10 per cent of the half million work power of the public sector within one month in order to save about 600,000,000 Sudanese pounds (\$130 million) a year. Finance and Economic Planning Minister Abdul Rahim Hamdi said.

The minister said the 500,000 public sector employees are drawing six billion Sudanese pounds a year (\$1.3 billion) and that the 1990/91 budget, approved last month, stipulated that 50,000 jobs out of the 500,000 public sector jobs be dispensed with their services.

Addressing a meeting of experts from his ministry, the Administrative Reform Centre and the Cabinet Affairs Ministry, the minister said the reduction of the public sector employees will not include those at the ministries of health and education and the security organs.

He said the public sector corporations will have to give up 25 per cent of their manpower, the local government 15 per cent and the central government seven per cent within a maximum period of one month.

The dismissal of the public sector employees will include all levels from the highest to the lowest, the minister pointed out, adding plans to encourage

early retirement and leaves without pay are being considered to help the staff reduction programme.

The official Sudan News Agency said after the meeting, attended by the Cabinet Affairs Minister Colonel Al Tayeb Ibrahim, adjourned to reconvene in one month "to assess the situation anew within the framework of the announced and unannounced trends of the (1990/91) general budget. "No elaboration on this point was given.

When he introduced the 1990/91 budget last month, the minister did not refer to the drop in number of personnel of the public sector or to measures to curtail the state manpower within the current fiscal year. He announced instead that "the dollar will not be revalued for the time being."

Today's announced measures coincide with the meeting on Monday of the International Monetary Fund in Washington to decide on future dealings with Sudan which was declared illigible to further use of the fund resources in 1986 for its failure to repay \$220 million in arrears.

With the details of the 1990/91 budget and the three years economic programme announced last month and today's decision cut the manpower by 10 per cent, the Sudan government has gone a long way in meeting the recommendations of the IMF and the World Bank.

## Fraser and Harrods owners charge human rights violations

LONDON, July 18, (UPI): The Egyptian Al Fayed brothers, who own the House of Fraser and Harrods department store, will ask the European Commission of Human Rights to judge whether their reputation was damaged by the Trade and Industry Department inquiry, officials said today.

House of Fraser officials said the Al Fayed wanted a neutral assessment on a DTI investigation in March which found the brothers had persistently lied about their origins, business standing and wealth during their con-

troversial 1985 takeover of the House of Fraser group.

In a press communique, the three brothers said they would soon make an application to the European human rights court in Strasbourg to obtain "effective remedies by internationally accepted standards" on what they called the unfairness of the DTI inspector's system.

They said no remedy is available under British law, and charged that the DTI report was published amid great publicity, despite

## BUSINESS

# US pressuring EEC on subsidy

'Very little' change so far

WASHINGTON, July 18, (AP): The United States is putting further pressure on the European Economic Community to negotiate the elimination of export subsidies from world trade, administration farm officials said yesterday.

One of the weapons in the US trade arsenal is the five-year-old Export Enhancement Programme, which provides "bonuses" or subsidies to make US commodities cheaper for selected foreign buyers.

But Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yentler said the US subsidy programme is modest compared with the \$10 billion annually spent by the 12-nation European trade bloc on farm export subsidies.

Further, he said, the House Appropriations Committee recently cut the subsidies under EEP to \$500 million from the \$900 million the administration had requested.

Yentler said export subsidies are "probably the most important part" of the trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The Uruguay round of international trade talks, involving some 100 nations, has been stalled by a dispute between the United States and its European trading partners over reducing government payments to farmers. The United States wants the Community to trim more than it has been willing to do so far.

Last week, US President George Bush and other leaders of the world's seven richest democracies pledged to make sharp cuts in agriculture subsidies but left it up to their negotiators to work out the details.

The trade talks, which began in 1986 in Uruguay, are an ambitious effort to overhaul the world trading system by reducing trade barriers in 15 areas, including agriculture.

Bargainers will gather next week in Geneva to try to draw up skeleton agreements in each area under discussion. The final round of negotiations will be held in early December in Brussels.

"If we can have a successful negotiation on export subsidies, a lot of countries around the world will benefit, including the United States," Yentler told a telephone news conference with a group of farm broadcasters.

Undersecretary Richard T. Crowder, who directly oversees international and commodity programmes in the Agriculture Department, said EEP programmes are "in place for all the major targeted customers and markets" of American farmers.

Crowder said the subsidy programmes serve a dual purpose, for achieving and maintaining a market share for US agricultural exports, and "for the trade policy effect that it will have on the (EEC), particularly as we enter the critical phase" of the trade talks.

"So, we are prepared to use EEP as aggressively as possible to ensure our competitiveness in the world market against those \$10 billion of export subsidies," he said.

Yentler, asked if EEC policies had changed as a result of trading pressure over the years, said there has been "very little" so far.

"They have been bringing their (domestic) price support levels down in a modest way over the last two or three years but not enough to have very much effect on production thus far," he said.

Score card			
WASHINGTON, July 18, (UPI): The US trade deficit widened to \$7.73 billion in May as a big jump in imports of oil and foreign cars offset the second-highest level of exports on record, the Commerce Department reported yesterday.			
While the May deficit was 5.8 per cent higher than a revised April trade gap of \$7.31 billion, most economists discounted the small worsening of the deficit.			
They pointed out that US export sales remained strong during the month and they predicted this trend would continue as economic growth overseas helps to prop up a sluggish American market.			
"Thank goodness for trade. It remains the brightest spot in the economy," said Allen Sinai, chief economist of the Boston Co. Financial firm. "The small increase in the May deficit is not of concern because we believe that strong growth overseas will keep US exports rising."			
level this year.			
While much of the June increase reflected a spurt in auto production in advance of a possible strike this fall and a heat wave which boosted utility demand, analysts said that a growing portion of US manufacturing output is being shipped to overseas markets.			
The Bush administration, which is counting on strong foreign demand to continue propping up the economy, reacted with pleasure to the May trade report.			
	May	April	
Country	May	April	
Canada	563.9	43.0	
E. Europe	811.6	1,355.9	
E. Community	722.3	1,432.0	
Britain	299.2	273.8	
W. Germany	538.2	674.8	
France	361.1	21.8	
Japan	369.0	344.7	
Italy	2,965.8	3,951.9	
OPEC	1,711.4	1,393.0	
Venezuela	410.6	320.0	
Indonesia	143.3	74.6	
S. Arabia	245.9	191.7	

## Textile restrictions

The Senate brushed aside veto threats by President George Bush and voted Tuesday to restrict the growth of US imports of textiles and apparel to 1 per cent a year and freeze imports of shoes at 1989 levels.

"They do not want to do anything for the textile industry," Sen Jesse Helms (shown above) of North Carolina, one of the country's main textile states, said of the Bush administration. "If we do nothing, it is safe to predict the demise of the industry is at hand."

been made in an Israeli bank account, said Richard Simpson, an attorney for the Securities and Exchange Commission. Simpson said he could not estimate how much in US assets have been frozen and said the SEC is working through diplomatic channels to freeze funds in Israel. He added that the SEC does not know how much money, if any, may be in the Israeli bank account because the money may have been transferred.

"Eddie Antar's whereabouts are presently unknown, but I think there's a 90 per cent

# ACC to set up bank

Centre to promote trade

AMMAN, July 18, (Reuters): The four member nations of the Arab Co-operation Council, seeking to mesh their economies and monetary policies, decided today to set up a joint bank.

Officials attending the closed-door meetings of the ACC central bank governors—grouping Jordan, Iraq, Yemen and Egypt—told Reuters the gathering also decided to establish a centre to clear trade-related payments within the bloc.

They said the proposed joint bank would co-ordinate the financing of exports within the group and with other countries. Details of capital and the level of private and public sector investment in the bank have still to be agreed.

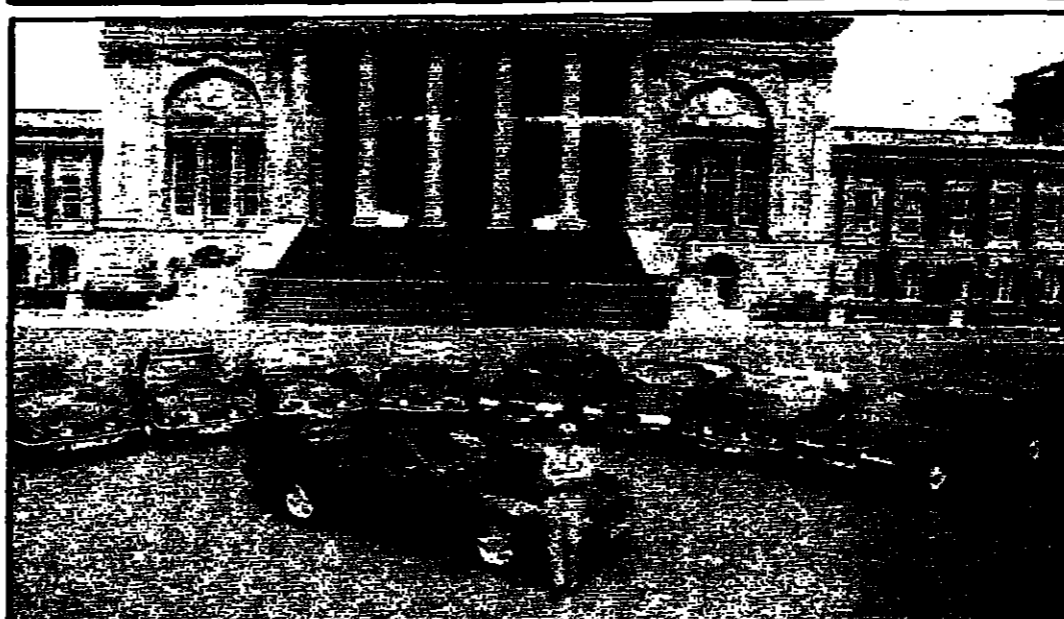
The governor's gathering was the first since the formation of the ACC in February 1989. ACC trade ministers were due to open their

meeting in Amman later today, after the bank talks wound up, to discuss speeding up trade exchanges.

The four nations have similar foreign policy views but disparate economies. All have relied heavily on external aid in recent years and all are burdened by debt.

The bloc links four nations with a total of more than 80 million people, a combined gross national product of more than \$100 billion, exports of about \$15 billion and imports of about \$42 billion.

Trade ministers were expected to put the final touches to a barter trade agreement, proposed at \$120 million this year. \$35 million each for Jordan, Iraq and Egypt and \$15 million for Yemen.



Aston Martins collection

Michael Halsey, marketing director of Aston Martin, poses with nine brand new Aston Martins from each production over the past 21 years on Tuesday in Buckingham. The cars, owned by an anonymous owner, are to be sold as a collection for over £7.5 million, (\$13.8 million).

## Markets in US not ready to go global

WASHINGTON, July 18, (AP): While US securities markets lead the world in efficiency and fairness, they're not quite ready for the international arena because they lag in implementing the latest technology, according to a congressional study to be released today.

Last month several securities exchanges in New York and Chicago announced plans to phase in over the next few years computerized, nighttime trading, to regain some of the business lost to foreign competitors.

But the Office of Technology Assessment, an arm of Congress that analyzes science and technology, says the change may be too slow in coming.

"It is by no means certain that US markets will remain in the forefront of the movement toward 'round-the-clock' global securities trading," noted the OTA, in a report.

In addition to competition already coming from exchanges in London and Tokyo, the report noted that Swiss, German and French exchanges "are making vigorous efforts to increase their volume, automate their activities and modernize their regulatory regimes" by 1992 when European trade barriers come down.

While US futures exchanges and our over-the-counter market are acting aggressively to put worldwide electronic networks in place, the US stock exchanges have been slower to act. Meanwhile, securities exchanges in many countries are moving toward highly automated markets," added the 106-page report, "trading around the clock. Global securities markets and information technology."

Asked if it was fair to say the study indicated that American market mechanisms aren't ready yet to go global, Vary T. Coates, project director of the study said, "I think that's fair enough. They've been slow to move in that direction—at least the exchanges are."

Officials at the New York stock exchange and the American stock exchanges said they hadn't seen the report, and thus could not comment.

chance that they will become known at some point," Simpson said. "At that time we're going to make him pay \$73 million."

Antar's attorney, Justin N. Feldman of New York, said he could not comment because he was not in court when the judgement against his client was issued.

Antar built a single outlet in New York into a chain with 43 stores in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He became widely known in the region for his television and radio commercials blaring "insane" prices.

## Citicorp reports Profit declines

NEW YORK, July 18, (AP): Citicorp, said yesterday its second-quarter profit tumbled 37 per cent, reflecting problems the nation's largest banking company is having with real estate loans and the failure of Argentina and Brazil to pay loan interest.

The parent of the nation's biggest bank, Citibank, said it earned \$24 million, or 64 cents a share, for the three months ended June 30 compared \$395 million, or \$1.11 a share, a year earlier.

The company said its earnings were up 28 per cent from consumer banking activities and 44 per cent from international banking and finance activities.

But it said weakness in the real estate market, especially in the United States, hurt its results.

Citicorp said its credit loss provision was \$473 million for the quarter, up \$144 million from a year earlier. Its commercial loan loss reserve was boosted by \$58 million, bringing its reserve to \$744 million.

"The continuing uncertain real estate environment may cause write-offs to continue at a relatively high level until we see some stabilisation in values," the company said in a statement.

## World Bank reports lower fiscal income

Efforts to lower costs for borrowers cited for decline

NEW YORK, July 18, (AP): The World Bank said yesterday that efforts to lower costs for Third World borrowers and increased provisions for problem loans resulted in a 5 per cent drop in its fiscal 1990 net income over a year ago.

The bank, which is owned by roughly 150 countries and is the largest lender to the developing world, said its profit totalled \$1.04 billion for the year ended June 30, compared with earnings of \$1.09 billion in 1989.

The 1990 figures include a \$357 million provision set aside to cover future loan losses and a \$106 million charge for health and insurance benefits to retired staff.

Income was further reduced by about \$150 million as a result of the World Bank's decision to lower the loan commitment fees to borrowers for a second consecutive year, the bank said.

In discussing the profit decline, Ernest Stern, senior vice-president for finance, told a news conference, "the World Bank does not seek to maximize income. Our first priority... is to begin to reduce costs to our borrowers."

"Lower net income figures... would not reflect a lower income-generating capacity, but a discretionary decision not to retain

# House defeats budget change

## 7 votes short

WASHINGTON, July 18, (AP): The House of Representatives narrowly defeated a constitutional amendment yesterday to balance the budget after opponents said it was a gimmick to hide the failure of Congress and the president to cut the huge federal deficits.

The house voted 279-150 in favour of the amendment, but it was seven votes short of the two-thirds required to propose a constitutional change.

President George Bush, meanwhile, declared that the worsening federal deficit meant "the time for game-playing is over" and set a budget meeting with congressional leaders at the White House today.

Backers of the amendment said they had expected defeat. Congressman Charles Stenholm, a Democrat, said either way, Congress needed to make tough choices to end a decade of huge increases in the national debt, which now tops \$3.1 trillion.

"It's up to us folks," he said, "if this amendment passes, it's going to take guts. If it doesn't pass, it's going to take guts."

"We're getting to a crunch," Bush told a group of magazine publishers at the White House. "It is absolutely essential that something be done. I will do my part."

He commented a day after the White House office of budget and management boosted its estimate of the fiscal 1991 deficit to \$168.8 billion—up 10 billion from the administration's estimates a month ago and up sharply from the 100.5 billion it estimated in January.

The projected deficit is more than \$100 billion above the Gramm-Rudman law target of 64 billion.

Congressional budget negotiators had given mixed reviews to the administration's gloomy assessment—some saying it would help prod slow-moving talks and others suggesting the opposite.

"Given yesterday's news," Bush said yesterday, "the time for game-playing is over. And we have to get something done that is not only a sound budget agreement but is seen by the American people to be a sound budget agreement."

Bush said that while he was still "fairly optimistic" such a pact could be reached, it will require both spending cuts and tax increases.

Bush earlier this month abandoned his 1989 "no new taxes" campaign pledge.

The president said he was fearful "about the confidence in the marketplace" should a budget deal not be struck.

"We will be pushing in the next couple of weeks and the metre is running," Bush said.

Budget summit talks between administration officials and congressional leaders enter their third month this week.

## Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs)			
July 18, '90.			
Pr. Close	Open	Close	
ACC	810	790	810
Alum Chem	—	—	—
Alu Nis	—	—	—
Ashtek Ley	84	83	85
Asia Paint	237	238.75	240
Cap	40	45	45
Auto Corp	70	67.50	70
Nat Index	477.32	—	482.82
Rajesh Auto	513.75	518.75	517.50
Bar Rayon	1090	1090	1105
Blow Plast	—	—	—
Bom Dye	254.50	245	254
BK Bond	116	114	116
Burr Wd	—	65	70
Cen Enks	4175	4150	4275
Cen Spg	3780	3800	3825
Colgate	250	250	251.50
Crompt Gr	1050	—	—
DCM	30	30	32.50
Deep Fert	29.50	29	29.75
Dunlop	60	62	65
El Hotels	98	98	98
Escorts	107	107	107.50
BSE Index	916.93	926.92	927
Eskayef	140	140	146.25
Espar Spg	40.50	40.75	40.50
Food Spl	128.75	130	132.50
Forbes	61	59	61
Gar Poly	39	38	37.50
Gidra	103	103	107
GNFC	39.75	40.25	39.50
Halgate	145.50	145	147
GE Sips	43.75	44	44
GSFC	217.50	217.50	218.75
Guj Alk	90	89	90
Guj Heavy	15.50	15	15.50
Hero Honda	37	36	37
Hind Ciba	1510	1500	1530
Hind Lever	127	127	129
Hind Motor	170	172.50	173.75
Hindalco	44.50	45	45.50
Hindustan	3070	3112.50	3110
Hoechst	2380	2380	2460
Ingersoll	245	240	245
ITC	92	91	93
Ind Org	61.25	63.50	63
Ind Rayon	125	128	126.50
Indrol	262.50	261.25	258.75
JK Syn	69.50	70	70.50
Kin Engg	167.75	168	166.25
Kir Cumm	78	77	78
KSB Pumps	192.50	190	197.50
L & T	96.50	96	96.50
Lipton	84.50	83	83.50
Mace Russel	95	95	95.5
Mad Cos	125	122.50	130
Mahindra	90	90	90
Mas Shure	20.50	20.50	23.75
Mico	965	965	955
Milkfood	177.50	175	180
Modi	79	78	81
MRP Ltd	290	273	250
Mak Iron	142.50	141	146
Modi	1360	1370	1380
Nippon	36.50	35.50	36
Orkay	25	25.25	26
Oswal Agro	40	39	40
Pesco	89	88	89.50
Pillar	248.75	248	252.50
Prem Auto	70.50	70	70.50
Ranbaxy	49	47	48
Ray Wool	89.50	89.50	89
Reckitt	235	235	237.50
Reliance	97	96.50	97.50
Sesa Gm	99	99	99.50
Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Shree Chem	55	52.50	55
Siemens	114	112	114
SKF	1610	1600	1620
Spic	60.25	60.25	63.50
St Mills	74	75	75
Tata Oil	—	—	—
Tata Chem	119	118	118.50
Tata Pow	795	815	795
Teco	162.50	162	164
Tisco	130.75	132	133.75
Vam Org	128	130	133.75
Vareli	103	103	104
Volvas	101	103	104
Wipro	24.50	24.75	25.50
Zenith	49	48	49
Zuari Agro	69	67.50	70

Compiled by Kwait-India International Exchange Co.

## Nikkei stock average: 33048.11

Nikkei stock average: 33048.11			
(-124.17)			
Volume: 600 mil shs			
Yen exchange rate: 147.33			
Name of stock	Cl	Ch	
Advantest Corp	6060	-20	
Ajinomoto	2020	+10	
Alps Electric	2510	+30	
Amada	1830	-10	
Asahi Chem Ind	912	-3	
Asahi Glass	1850	-20	
C. Itoh Co.	833	-7	
Canon Inc.	1900	-20	
Casio Comp	1600	-30	
Dai Nippon Printing	2000	+20	
Daiichi Seiyaku	2730	+60	
Dainippon Pha.	3060	-20	
Dainippon Corp	1900	-20	
Eisai	1970	+20	
Fanuc Ltd.	7500	-50	
Fuji Photo	4850	-100	
Fujitsu Ltd.	1490	-10	
Hitachi Credit	1640	+10	
Hitachi Koki	2380	-30	
Hitachi Ltd.	1490	-20	
Hitachi Metal	1560	-20	
Honda Motor	1760	-20	
Ito Yokado Co	4240	-60	
Kajima Corp	1930	0	
Kawasaki H I	835	+10	
Kobe Cast Iron	1640	-20	
Kokusai Elec.	5190	-10	
Konatsu Ltd.	1310	0	
Kyocera Corp	8970	-170	
Mitsubishi Corp	1560	-10	
Mitsubishi Estate	1490	-20	
Mitsubishi H I	1010	+10	
Mitsui R E	1860	+20	
Mizuno Corp	1940	+10	
Mochida Ph	4330	-70	
Motor Selsi Co.	3950	-60	
NEC Corp	1990	-30	
Nikon Corp	1720	-30	
Nippon Shin Co	1080	-10	
Nippon Steel Corp	561	+1	
Nippondenso	2300	-10	

## VIDEO CORNER

## Cool but stylish adaptation

By Shaun Seekins

*The Handmaid's Tale* is Canadian novelist Margaret Atwood's most intellectual work to date, it seems appropriate that West German director Volker Schlöndorff should come up with a cold and clinical adaptation, accurately capturing the mood of the original. It is the tail end of the 20th Century, disease and chemical pollution have made most women infertile, and the extreme right wing government which runs the country of Gilead (situated where the US is now) have come up with a simple way to perpetuate the human race. Young women who can still bear children — known as "handmaids" — are captured and placed in concentration camps, where they are brainwashed to serve as nothing but dispassionate baby-makers. If they refuse they are banished to clean up toxic waste for the remainder of their lives.

When she is deemed worthy, after a spell of training with the fanatical Auntie Lydia (Victoria Tennant), the handmaid is turned over to a wealthy upper-class couple, who will use the powerless woman as a surrogate mother, all the while treating her as a servant.

The Commander (Robert Duval) is a leading figure in the government responsible for security, he is married to the barren Serena

Joy (Faye Dunaway). Kate (Natasha Richardson) is captured and her husband killed during an attempt to escape across the border, she then finds herself in their service and has to undergo humiliation as they demand a baby from her. Whether this is from unrequited mother love on the part of Serena or because babies have become the ultimate status symbol is not clear.

Despite her apparently demure compliant ways, Kate satisfies the forbidden desires of the Commander and when his attempts to impregnate her fail, decides to double her chances by taking his chauffeur as a lover. Because the penalty for failing to produce a baby is being sent to the toxic waste disposal unit, she seems to have few alternatives. Gradually, she becomes involved with a group of rebels in a series of secret relationships that can only end in disaster.

The film advances at a slow thought provoking pace which seems to heighten the effects on the viewer of watching a society that has lost its soul. Only an abrupt conclusion spoils the effect as we are left with some loose ends.

Burndown plays upon our fears of nuclear contamination, when the nuclear power plant in the town of Thorpeville is prematurely shut down. The inhabitants find that they are living in what has become a virtual ghost

town. Then to compound the misery a series of bizarre, frenzied murders occur which strike terror into the whole community. But the local chief of police's attempts to crack the mystery are dogged by the obstructive caretaker of the nuclear plant and a beautiful reporter who do just about anything to get a story. The whole cover-up is destroyed when the third victim is found to be contaminated and then the questions need to be answered ... fast.

*Murder Run* is based on the true story of Richie Start and Laura Ferguson, two young delinquents who in just a few days in 1958 killed seven people. After a police hunt he is finally captured and ends his days in the electric chair.

*Bloodfist* is for kickboxing fans. Jake (Don Wilson) returns to the ring when his brother dies mysteriously fighting in the Tai Ching — the world's toughest kickboxing match. To find the killer, Jake must enter the Tai-Ching and infiltrate the dangerous underworld of Manila kickboxing.

Golf is featured again this week in 1980's *Ten Years of the British Open*, with Ballesteros, Watson, Faldo and Lyle among the golfing greats who appear on this cassette.

The above movies are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Nani, Salmiya Complex, Video Club, Salmiya.

Natasha Richardson and Aidan Quinn in *The Handmaid's Tale*.

## CINEMA TODAY

**Al Andalus**  
Jazira Al Shaitan (Arabic)  
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra Al Salmiya

**Tah Al Sifr** (Arabic)  
Starring: Saleh Saadani, Najla Fathi

**Al Hamra**  
D.O.A.  
Starring: Dennis Quaid, Meg Ryan

**Drive-In**  
Jazira Al Shaitan (Arabic)  
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra Al Salmiya

**Taqdeer Ka Tamasha** (Hindi)  
Starring: Jeetendra, Kimi Katkar

**Fahad Open-Air**  
Sheeshay Ka Ghar (Hindi)  
Al Fahad

**Nai Bichar** (Bengali)  
Al Jahra  
Fatiyah Al Raqm Al Sa'ab (Arabic)

**Friday: Ghost Busters II**  
Granada  
Closed

**Salaibikhat**  
Oru Vadakkan Veeragadha (Malayalam)

**Friday: Soldier Terminators**  
Al Jebel

**Scrooge**  
Ahmadi Drive-in  
Al Mohtaraf Wal Ashbah (Arabic)

**All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.**

## PRAYERS

Fajr	3.29 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.29 pm
Maghreb	6.48
Isha	8.17

## FRIDAY

Fajr	3.29 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.29 pm
Maghreb	6.47
Isha	8.16

## Back and forth

By Jack E. Wilkinson

**Back to the Future Part II:** Here we go back — and forth — again. Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) and his transcendent tutor Doc Brown (Christopher Lloyd) race ahead in their warped-out DeLorean to 1955, then speed back to 1955 in the second segment of this popular time-tripping trilogy. Their mission is to save the world, the McFly heritage and anything else that crops up, including aborting the devious deeds of Biff (Thomas Wilson), that menace for all seasons, moving so quickly from one time frame to another they often cross paths with themselves. The convoluted, sometimes mind-boggling yarn is, like most sequels, rather lame alongside the 1985 original, to which it repeatedly refers. (If you missed that you will miss much of the meaning of what goes on here). But, for followers of the eyeblink doings of Marty and Doc, the adventure continues with appetites presumably whetted for still more by a closing preview of *Future III*, opening theatrically as *Future II* hits the home market. (1989, 108 minutes, MCA-Universal Home Video, Rated PG).

**Crimes and Misdemeanors:** Without missing a bat, Woody Allen deftly jumps from drama to comedy and back again in his latest tome on New York life, touching on just about every aspect (success and failure, good and evil, truth and delusion). Like much of Allen's work, the film's strongest point is its splendid ensemble cast as it deals with two very different characters. First, there's a widely respected eye doctor and family man (Martin Landau) who must deal severely with a personal threat, namely a rattled mistress (Anjelica Huston) who insists he dump his wife. Then, there's the hapless loser (Allen, of course), a down-and-out filmmaker who reluctantly agrees to be a documentary on his wife's famous, egotistical brotiff (Alan Alda); a venture that ends with both going after the same woman (Mia Farrow), and you can guess who wins. (1989, 104 minutes, Orion Home Video, Rated PG-13).

**The Fabulous Baker Boys:** In this stylish, buxxy drama about two brothers trying to breathe new life into a dying nightclub lounge act, it's not hard to tell who's the fabulous one. And, it's not a Baker boy, Michelle Pfeiffer, snugly clad in red and slithering across a piano top, smokily singing about *Making Whoopee*, steals the show, natch. Her sexy, tough-minded torch singer Susie Diamond is nearly as easy to listen to as to watch. Nearly. Still, much of the film's success banks on the strong interactive performances of Jeff and Beau Bridges, brothers playing brothers, believable as they run the gamut of sibling emotions. Jack and Frank Baker hire Susie to jazz up their sagging twin-piano act which she does with great success, but as expected, it's an intrusion that at first splices, then splices a partnership. They do make pretty good music together, though the film's tempo tends to drag at times. (1989, 116 minutes, IVE, Rated R.)

**Worth Winning:** Mark Harmon stars as an amorous TV weatherman in this spring-fling comedy, sunny and pleasant and light as air. Harmon plays Taylor Worth, Philadelphia's most eligible bachelor who, on a wager, gets engaged to three women at once. You can bet he falls for one of them. Co-starring Lesley Anne Warren, Madeline Stowe and Maria Holvov. (1989, 103 minutes, CBS/Fox Video, Rated PG-13).

**Triumph of the Spirit:** A grim but engrossing film about the Holocaust and a unique method of survival. Willem Dafoe plays Salamo Arouch, a Greek middleweight boxing champion imprisoned by the Nazis at the notorious Auschwitz concentration camp. Salamo is forced to fight other prisoners for the entertainment of SS officers and must win to survive — the loser usually is executed. Dafoe's acting shines through gloomy surroundings. Robert Loggia and Edward James Olmos co-star. (1989, 120 minutes, RCA/Columbia Home Video, Rated R.)



## Meridien courses

Hotel Meridien Kuwait is always striving to improve the standard of their service. Better service comes from better trained staff, so the Meridien sponsors their staff for a variety of courses. Recently, thirty members of the staff successfully completed courses of the educational institute of the American Hotel and Motel Association. Not only did all of those who took the courses pass them, but also four passed with honours. Above: Meridien staff who recently passed AHMA courses are shown with their general manager and the department heads.



## Sheikh Salem welcomed

Minister of Interior, Sheikh Salem bin Ahmed Al Sabah was welcomed by the general manager and public manager of Kuwait International Hotel. A function was organised on Monday, by the Farwaniya and Capital governorate at the hotel.



## Students honoured

The Governor of Farwaniya Sheikh Ahmed Al Hmoud Al Sabah on Monday held a ceremony to honour outstanding high school students in both the science and art fields. It was attended by a number of Ministry of Education officials, students and their families. Above: Sheikh Ahmed handing over a prize to one of the students. (Right) Sheikh Ahmed with officials of the Farwaniya educational sector.



## Social

## Approb 'Who's Who' directory

THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is planning to publish a "Who's Who" directory of prominent Pakistani professionals and businessmen resident in Kuwait by January 1991. The directory aims at providing information about all Pakistanis proficient and distinguished in their professions and businesses.

Data forms are available free of cost from Approb executive board members and other locations. For further details contact Approb on Tel. No. 2425315, Fax 5323751, P.O. Box 2351, Salmiya, 22024 Salmiya, Kuwait.

A copy of the directory will be given free of charge to all individuals whose names will appear in the directory.

## Sur Sangeet

July 19: A musical evening will be presented by Sur Sangeet group to say farewell to outgoing Indian Second Secretary S.M. Mathur. Singers participating in the show include Valencia, Rosebud, Laxmi, Charlie, Shah Nawaz Karim.

## Kapilku

July 19: Kapilku awards certificates of attendance to those who attended tailoring, book-keeping, basic accounts and basic computer courses. The ceremony will be held at Al Araliya Restaurant, 8 pm. Philippine Ambassador Mauryag Mohammad Tamano

will be the chief guest. Buffet dinner, KD 3 per person. Proceeds will go towards the school fund.

Those who attended self-improvement classes are asked to contact Sarah Macarimbang. Tel: 4839009, 4839889, 4843447.

**LIL**  
July 30: 10 am to 12 noon. LIL will hold a new comer's coffee morning on Monday at the Sheraton Hotel, Mezzanine floor. Ladies new to LIL or Kuwait are welcome. For details contact Janet 2434941.

**Summerbelle '90**  
Aug 2: United Goans Centre will hold Summerbelle '90 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. Top Ranks and Hurricane Alley in attendance. For reservations call Tony 2612024; Cyril 2523930; Joe 5655140.

## Music

## Rock and Reggae

July 22: 'Let's Rock and Reggae', a concert with Steve Michael and the Afro Beat, will be held from 9pm to 11pm at the Holiday Inn Hotel's Grand Ballroom. Vocalist Sheryl Pereira will make a special appearance as a soloist and also join Steve in some duets. Tina Mathews will perform a Reggae dance routine. Reservations open. Tel: 2405648; 2476660; 5714340; 5721030. Tickets also available from special desk in Holiday Inn lobby. The concert is being organised and presented by

Phil Danielle. Early bookings are advised due to limited seating.

## Children's cinema

July 18 (6 pm); July 19 (10.30 am): Popeye and Son. A New Generation. Strongman sailor Popeye and girlfriend Olive Oyl marry and have a son, Popeye Junior. It is time to join them in their hectic summer activities. This feature will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriya. Admission free but reservations must be made. Tel: 2533204; 2533227.

## At the Holiday Inn

Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner. Buffets featuring Continental and Oriental cuisine; emphasis on seafood.

Al Andalus Supper Club: Arabic style dining on Thursday nights: music by resident Arab band. Friday Family Lunch: Disney Fantasy: children half price.

**At the International**  
Falaka: situated on the 19th floor, overlooking the coastline, it offers international cuisine; live entertainment in the evenings. Closed on Fridays.

La Palma: offers buffet as well as a la carte, Family style brunch on Fridays. Kei: offers Japanese dining in an oriental atmosphere.

La Patisserie: selection of snacks; pianist in the evenings. Al Wah: ice cream promotion featuring different flavours, until August 1990.

**At the Sheraton:**  
Hunt Room: Daily buffet lunch in addition to a la carte; plus grilled specialties; a la carte dinner plus some specialties from Le Tarbouche; Duo Fantasy in attendance.

Wednesday/Thursday: Oriental buffet; live entertainment by the Lourdes Band and Arab singer Mohammad Baghdad. The restaurant is open from 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm; and 8 to 12.30 am.

Riccardo Restaurant: will be open for dinner 8pm to 11pm with live entertainment by Regina and Frances. Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner: 6am to 0100am.

## At the Meridien

La Brasserie  
Thai Corner: Saturday night. Cowboy Night: Every Sunday, with live country music. Chinese Corner: Monday night feature.

Greek Taverna: Mediterranean magic with bousoiki music. Indonesian corner: on Wednesdays; food prepared in front of you. Jazz Night: New Orleans atmosphere on Thursday night.

Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet: family day. Versailles: Business lunch; and a la carte dinner.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMME

## KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoons  
9.40 Iftah Ya Simsim  
10.00 Good Morning  
10.30 Waad Al Nabaar: Arabic serial, featuring Azza Kamal, Mustafa Fahmi.  
11.15 Sabah Al Khair  
12.00 Al Kanaz: Arabic serial, featuring Hind Kamel, Nazir Al Samara

1.00 News Summary  
1.05 World News via Satellite  
1.30 Al Sanafer: cartoon serial

2.30 Surkhay Nadam: Gulf serial, featuring Ali Hassan, Maryam Saleh

3.30 Alif Laila Wa Laila  
4.00 Liqa Al Khamis: weekly roundup of local news presented by Amina Al Sharrar, Majed Al Shatti

5.30 Cartoons  
6.00 Report From Egypt to Kuwait

6.30 Sandook Peter: children's programme  
7.30 Songs  
7.45 With Islam

8.25 From People's Lives  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.45 Raqeeb La Yanam: Arabic serial, featuring Ahmad Mazhar, Samiya Al Alfi, Nawal Abul Futouh

10.45 Shabab Ala Ka'f Afreet: Arabic feature film, starring Mohsin Mohiuddin, Nasreen, Mohammad Muneer, Mohammad Rida

12.00 Akhthara Lakum: late night entertainment  
1.25 News Summary  
1.30 World News via Satellite

1.45 Holy Quran/Closedown

**FRIDAY**  
9.00 Holy Quran  
9.25 Cartoons  
9.50 Ta'leem Kharij Al Madrasah

10.15 Songs  
10.30 Al Rahlah: children's serial, starring Safa Al Subel, Ahmad Abdul Wahab

11.00 Ahadith Mauduwa: religious programme with Sheikh Salah Abu Ismael

11.15 Friday Prayer: live from Grand Mosque  
12.30 Colours: presented by Fatima Abdul Wahab

1.00 News Summary  
1.05 World News Via Satellite  
1.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwali Sharawi

2.25 Halaqa Tamteeliya: "Tanateef". Starring: Ghanem Slaiti, Huda Hussein, Abdul Aziz Al Jassim

3.00 Min Hadae Al Quran: religious programme  
3.35 Indian feature film  
6.00 Haroun Yarwi Qissat Ardahu Documentary

7.30 Kuwait La Week  
8.00 Multaki Al Usrah: cultural programme

8.45 Hadith Usbooh: religious programme  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.45 Raqeeb La Yanam: Arabic serial, featuring Ahmad Mazhar, Samiya Al Alfi, Nawal Abul Futouh

11.00 Television Magazine: presented by Rasha Magdi  
12.15 News Summary  
12.20 World news via Satellite  
12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

**KTV 2**  
6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Cartoons  
6.30 My Secret Identity: Andrew wants to help his girlfriend solve a problem.

7.00 Star Trek: "The Outrageous Okona." The Okona seeks sanctuary on the Enterprise; trouble breaks out after another space-ship claims Okona has stolen the captain's jewellery. What is the secret behind Okona?

8.00 News in English  
8.40 Adventurer: Jack sails towards an island where he hopes to find a hidden treasure.

9.30 Paul Daniel Magic show  
10.00 Bill Cosby Show: "Mister Sandman." Cliff volunteers to take his daughter to dance lessons.... Starring: Bill Cosby, Phylcia Rashad.

10.30 Thursday Night Movie: "Sweet Revenge."  
12.00 News in Brief  
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

**FRIDAY**  
6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Cartoons  
6.30 Family Feature Film: "The Wonderful World of Disney." The story of Hamad, who is kidnapped from Bahrain and taken to an island.

8.00 News in English  
8.40 Breaking Away: A look at what's on in Kuwait.

8.50 T & T: "Hard Way Home." Kidnap and ransom demands form the theme of this episode. Starring: Mr. T.

9.15 Globe TV: A Ticket to the world.

10.00 Doctor Doctor: Dr Michael disagrees with the way in which their clinic is run; and the doctors almost break up. Comedy.

10.30 The Men: "Thomas." Paul wants to write an expose on police corruption.

11.30 News in Brief  
11.35 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## Sport

## All Filipino Scrabble Tournament

July 20: Filcheck have announced the all-female scrabble tournament, scheduled to start on Friday, July 20, will now be open to all Filipinos, male and female. Deadline for entries is July 19.

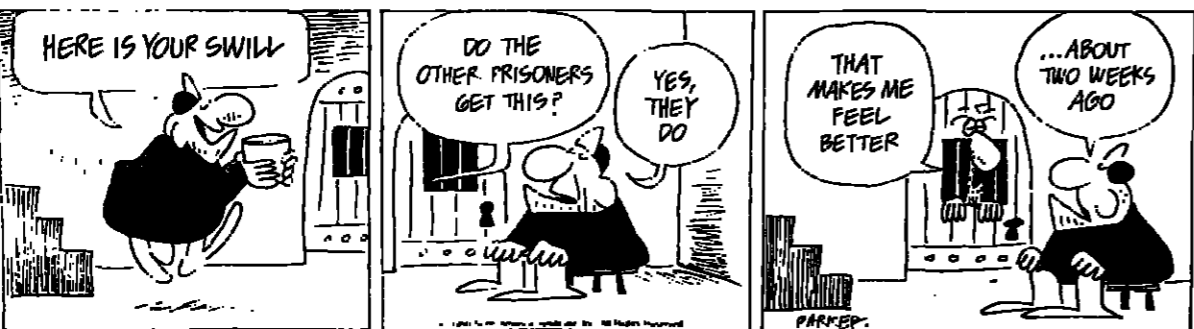
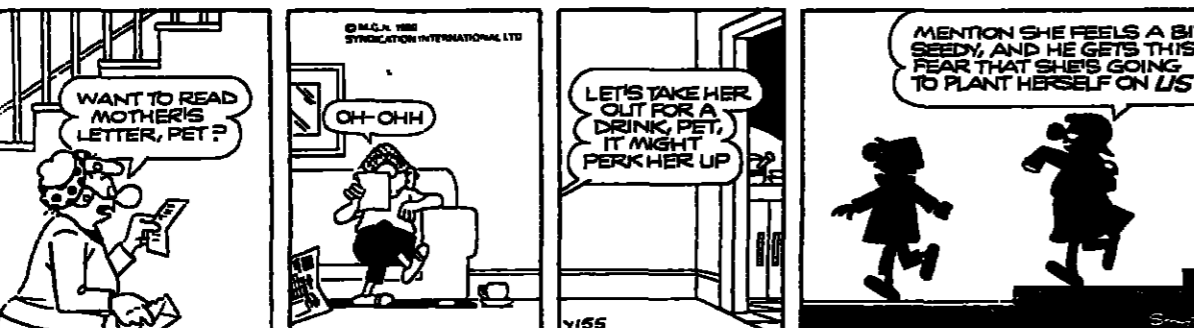
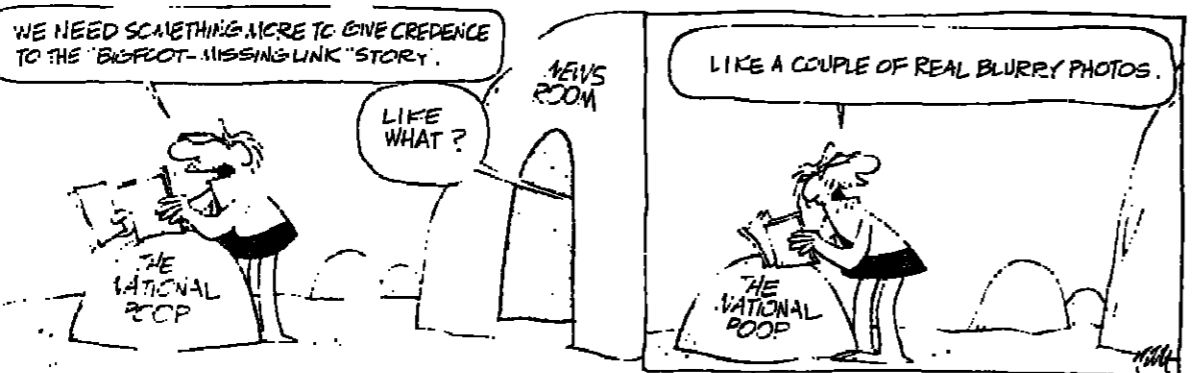
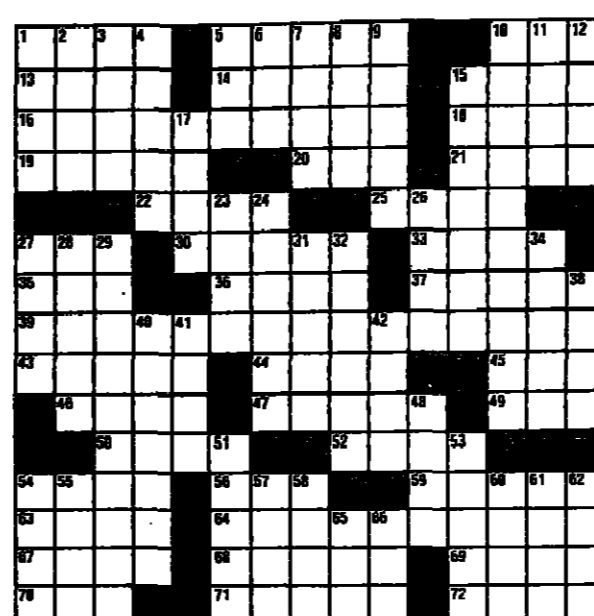
A total of 15 minutes is allocated for each player to finish the game; a player who exceeds the time limit will cease to play and his/her last score will be considered as the last score. Each player is required to use a chess clock to monitor time. The winner or the player with the highest score will earn 3 points; third one point and the last zero point. In case of a tie, the player with the highest score wins.

The champion and the two runners-up will each receive a trophy and valuable gift items. Registration forms are available at the Kabayan Restaurant. For details contact Edward/Liza 2402405

## Education

## British Council

The British Council is giving out information on how to get British qualifications through correspondence. Details about the names of colleges, dates and fees can be obtained from the Education Office, open from 9 am to 12.30 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

**BLONDIE** — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** — By Dik Browne**AGATHA CRUMM** — By Bill Hoest**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- Quick kiss
  - Gets an F
  - Humor
  - Algerian port
  - Island off Scotland
  - Desk
  - Compartment
  - Cut
  - Scornful look
  - Dundee denial
  - Mizzon or spunker
  - Spanish artist
  - This one: Lat
  - Circular figures
  - Dillon of "Gunsmoke"
  - Frau's "alas"
  - Street sound
  - Asian nation
  - Four
  - Talk-show VIP
  - Anglo-Saxon slave
  - Moist
  - Barely made a living, with "out"
  - Rot
  - New Deal initials
  - Genesis site
  - Relative of etc.
  - "The — Love"
  - Baseball stat.
  - Disbands
  - Reed instrument
  - Lawn game
  - Malign
  - Incorise
  - Litter's littlest
  - Asian holiday
  - Word with wear or weight
- DOWN**
- Parts of matches
  - Fathers, familiarly
  - Emerald Isle
  - Gretzky's target
  - Limb joints
  - Ardent admirer
  - Hardwood
  - Sacred image
  - "Damn Yankees" siren
  - Equine
  - Eat voraciously
  - "What's for me?"
  - Faucets
  - N. Atlantic republic
  - Spoken
  - Very small amount
  - Pillaged
  - Surrounded by
  - Rabbit's kin
  - "—, I saw, I conquered"
  - Lose one's
  - nerve
  - Sheriff's men
  - At bat position
  - Detroit athlete
  - Nick and Nora's dog
  - More destitute
  - Yield
  - Orderly
  - Pound sounds
  - Name of fame
  - In 37 Across
  - Actor Ben's family
  - Greatest amount
  - Start of a palindrome
  - Horse of a certain color
  - Dry
  - Lachorous man
  - Big top at the circus
  - Swift planes, for short
  - Compass dir.
  - Always, to a bard

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

ALTA AVOID MATT  
ATOP DONNA TALE  
TIME DICK MARTIN  
ESS OLDE LIENS  
APRES CAT SEE  
SEWERS PARED  
HAYES DISCREDIT  
EVEL LINES VINO  
DERELICTS MICRO  
DOVES LOCKET  
NAT WED CARET  
USUAL DAWN ROB  
DIRTY HARRY MADE  
EDIE IRATE ACID  
SEN TAMER EYES

**GOREN BRIDGE**

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
STAY IN CONTROL

Neither vulnerable. West deals.  
**NORTH**  
♠ 8 6  
♥ 10 7 3 2  
♦ A K 9 5  
♣ K Q 3

**WEST** ♠ K Q J 9 5  
♥ Q J 9 8  
♦ 7 3  
♣ A 8

**EAST** ♠ 7 4 3 2  
♥ 6  
♦ J 10 6 4 2  
♣ 7 6 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 10  
♥ A K 5 4  
♦ Q 8  
♣ J 10 9 5 4

The bidding:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 3 ♦ 3 ♣ 4 ♣  
Pass Pass Pass  
Opening lead: King of ♠

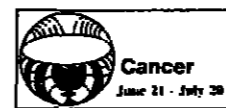
king of spades, taken by the ace. Declarer cashed the king and ace of trumps and received the bad news. Next came three rounds of diamonds to take care of declarer's spade loser. West refused to ruff. Now declarer turned to the club suit, but West took the ace at the first opportunity, drew two rounds of trumps to exhaust all the hearts, then cashed four spade tricks to complete an undignified four-trick rout.

The 4-1 trump break was rather unfortunate, but need not have been disastrous had declarer retained command of the play. South can afford to lose two trumps and a club, which presents no problem so long as neither defender is void in hearts.

After winning the ace of spades, declarer should draw only one round of trumps. Next come three rounds of diamonds, taking care of the spade loser, and West should refrain from ruffing. Still steering clear of trumps, declarer continues the good work by forcing out the ace of clubs. Once that card is removed, declarer simply plays clubs from hand until a defender ruffs, then cashes the remaining high trump after regaining the lead.

**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
March 21 - April 19  
Not everything will proceed quite in the way you would have wished, but some things will proceed faster and better. There is, however, no time to lose and you should not linger. Put a curb on your expenditure. Be pertinent.



**Cancer**  
June 21 - July 20  
You will find a new, better, way of doing something routine. Others will be more favourably inclined towards you and should return the compliment. Do not leave travel arrangements until the last minute. Be less obstinate.



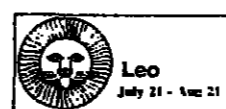
**Libra**  
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22  
You will tend to be a little too meticulous, but by the same token you should not go to the opposite extreme. Do not dwell so much on what happened in the past, instead act in the present and look forward to the future. Seek to preserve your inner peace of mind. Be frank.



**Capricorn**  
Dec. 21 - Jan. 19  
You have plenty to do and enough time to do it only if you do not allow yourself to be distracted. Your lucky numbers are 7 and 23. Be on your guard, there are those who are out to swindle you. Do not let a friend down. Be frugal.



**Taurus**  
April 21 - May 20  
There will be some holdups where details are concerned. However, the most important matters will proceed well. Do not allow yourself to be tempted to do what you know you should not be doing. Be straightforward.



**Leo**  
July 21 - Aug. 21  
You will have to make a few concessions and they will prove to have been well worth while. You are liable to think negative thoughts and should try instead to look more on the positive side.



**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
There is not point in being annoyed with yourself about some failing of yours, try to correct it or to put up with it if you really cannot. Do not expect others to behave just as you would like them to.



**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20 - Feb. 19  
Do not state your intent what you have no intention of doing. Give others the benefit of the doubt. A little more kindness on your part will make you too feel a lot better. Be moderate.



**Gemini**  
May 21 - June 20  
Take things more as they come but do not just wait for things to happen. What you had expected will not be quite as expected, indeed not as bad as you had feared. Make sure you do not exceed any safe and proper limits. Be sincere.



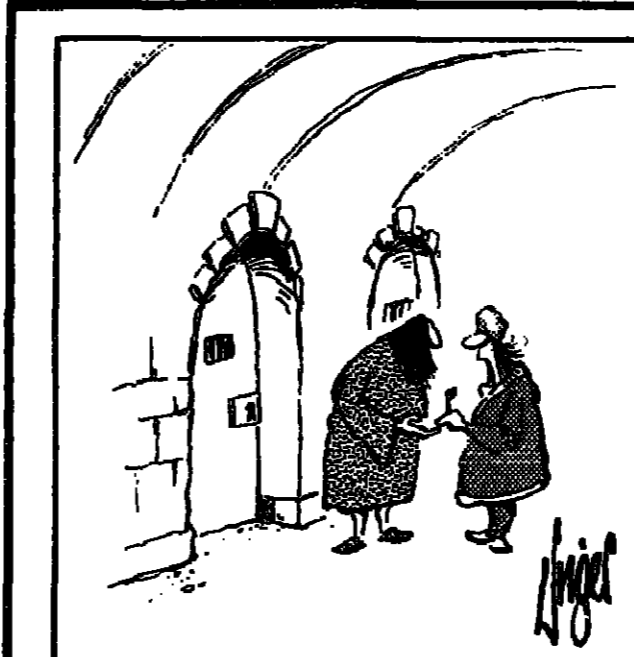
**Virgo**  
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22  
Something to which you had been looking forward will not be quite as enjoyable as you had hoped. Never mind, you will know how to make the most of it. Do not allow yourself to be misled by sales talk and by believing that what you would like to be is.



**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 23 - Dec. 20  
Try to think as others about a problem — if you can it will be easier to take the right action. Check your figures as you go along rather than waiting until the end. Relying on guesswork is a grave mistake just now. Be attentive.



**Pisces**  
Feb. 20 - March 20  
You do not have room for all the items you would like to keep and should avoid accumulating what tends to be of no use to you. On the other hand do not discard what could be re-used. Do not accept hospitality unless you are able to return it. Be consistent.



Indian Cinema

# Bollywood scandal

## Ghai molests Manisha: report

EVEN as the controversy about Rekha's marriage-divorce floated, trade magazine broke another scandal: alleged molestation of newcomer Manisha Koirala. The story, carried by a film magazine, claimed Ghai tried to molest Manisha during the outdoor shooting of Saudagar in Manali, Himachal Pradesh. It said Ghai called Manisha to his hotel room on the pretext of discussing a hotel room when the alleged incident took place.

Shocked, Manisha rushed back to Bombay with her mother. Her father, who belongs to a royal family of Nepal, got in touch with politicians like Chandra Shekhar in New Delhi. Reportedly, things got to normal after the intervention of many people, including Raj Babbar and Dilip Kumar.

Soon after the magazine article, contradictory reports appeared in other trade journals. Also, Manisha returned to Kulu-Manali, where shooting was in full swing. Manisha issued a denial. "I hear with distress some magazines are spreading false and baseless rumours of a so-called conflict between Subhashji and I. I hereby state that this is an absolutely false and concocted story." She also claims: "Some motivated and jealous people have an axe to grind and have

blown it out of proportions." However, she admitted experiencing "minor irritations" on the sets.

The denial was addressed to Saudagar's public relations officer, Gopal Pandey. Why was he informed and instructed to do the needful? The magazine which broke the scandal has strong political connections. Recently, it organised a ceremony in the UK in honour of Amitabh Bachchan. Pandey is a confidante of the magazine editor. And Bachchan is nursing a wound. Ghai shelved Devaa. He also did not ask Bachchan to take part in a stage show.

Frankly, the episode could be a publicity stunt, stage-managed by Ghai. A similar scandal rocked the industry. Rajesh Khanna was accused of harassing Sabiha, a 16-year-old actress. After the film's release, the air cleared. And everyone became friends.

However, in the present scandal there is a strong political implications. Manisha's grandfather was once the prime minister of Nepal. Last year, India's relations with Nepal soured over renewal of a bilateral trade agreement. The present government is improving ties. In fact, when the scandal was reported, the Nepalese prime minister was in Delhi.



Ghazal, Bina and Kiran Kumar in Yaadon Ke Mausam.

## Pervez peddles dreams

# Muslim social returns

SALAHUDDIN Pervez, a well-known name in Urdu literary circles, took to films some years ago. His first venture, entitled *Jumbish* (with Akbar Khan and Padmini Kolhapure) did not create a stir, as expected. No one understood the high-flown Urdu prose.

He has toned down for his next venture, called *Yaadon Ke Mausam*, and promises to reach the masses with "dreams and music." He has resorted to the '60s film-making style. He dwells on platonic love where the two besotted lovers rely on poetry, romantic missives and eye-contact. Pervez believes this approach is realistic, unlike the I-meet-you-and-fall-in-love syndrome picked up from European and American movies.

The small-budget film introduces Ghazal and Vikrant, supported by character actors like Saeed Jaffrey, Sushma Seth and Bina. Kiran Kumar represents the Hindu community in the film. Pervez tries to capture the inter-action between the two communities through Kiran's character.

It's the story of an Indian who returns home to find love. This aspect could be autobiographical. Pervez sells computers for an American firm in the Middle East. He also authored "Identity Card," blasting Salman Rushdie.

Pervez had to compromise on his literary style to write lyrics for his film *Yaadon Ke Mausam*. Music is by Anand-Milind.

The film will be released shortly.

## Amir's craze makes 'em crazy

Amir Khan-Madhuri Dixit starrer, *Dil*, has proved to be a terrific initial hit. Amir's stock has gone up. The industry is trying to cash in on his success and are planning to release Amir Khan movies.

The next to come is *Diwana Mujh Sa Nahin*. Amir plays a bespectacled photographer. Madhuri is his favourite model who doesn't

take his advances seriously. Soon, she announces her engagement to someone else. Madhuri is not too happy when she learns that Amir yearns for her company. The film ends on happy note. It's said to be a romance with a difference. Will the public accept it?

Next comes *Jawani Zindabad* with Farha playing the female lead. Neelam stars in a

routine campus romance in *Afsana Pyar Ka*. Now, a surge of Amir films may saturate the market. Amir says: "I wish there was a gap of at least six weeks in-between each release. He can't do anything about it. So, Amir's craze may turn cold."

Above: Amir Khan and Madhuri Dixit in *Diwana Mujh Sa Nahin*

## Star slips

When I expect an award, I rehearse two speeches: one to say thank you for giving the award and why I won it; and the other expressing regrets, while being cheerful, that someone else has won the award.

Anupam Kher Ektaa was on the sets in this skirt flying high. It looked good and I shot it. Covering and uncovering a girl is more beautifully sexy than just baring her.

Dev Anand What are today's producers? Only proposal makers. For me it's hello in the morning and money in the evening. No complaints, no regrets.

Rishi Kapoor If a doctor starts practice, and his first two patients die, then it's a big blow. The same happened to me when first two films failed.

Kanwaljeet



Rishi Kapoor: 'Hello, in the morning'.

## Behind the screen

**Strip tease:** Archana Puran Singh did not realise what she was doing when she took up the lead role in the stageplay "Kidnapping of Sheila Khan." She thought she would show her talent in another medium. All she got was revealing clothing, body exposure and vulgar dialogue. People called it a strip-tease performance. She draws consolation from the fat pay packet.

**Freak record:** The freak singer Milan Singh, not declaring whether he/she is male or female, sings in the voice of Mohammad Rafi and Asha Bhosle she has broken another record. She has sung all the songs, for male and also female characters in the film *'Khajuraho Ke Paar'*. Is she signing at Guinness? Or at least the Limca Book of records?

**Tight spot:** Sunil Dutt was caught napping. He issued a certificate to the producer of *Thamadar* saying: "I had the pleasure of seeing two songs and I am sure the film will bring you fame and money. I appreciate your support to your director and dance director for giving them whatever they wanted to picture the *Tamma Tamma* song. I wish there are many more like you." Sunil is in a odd spot: his son Sunjay Dutt is the film's hero and the song will be picturised on him.

**Blind leap:** Jaya Prada took a blind leap when she married an already bonded man Srikanth. More than his first wife Chandra, the "extra" film of Srikanth put off Jaya Prada. And the latest is said to be Neeta Puri. At first Jaya tried to be nice with her. Then she swore never to work with her, though the carefree Neeta persisted. But from Srikanth to Dharmendra is like falling from the frying pan into the fire. Will someone please tell Jaya to look, this time?

**Sri Devi truce:** Sri Devi acted tough with Boney and Anil Kapoor by not giving dates for *Roop Ki Rani Choron Ka Raja*. What she wanted was equally prominent footage. But the excuse was that she had given all the promised dates to the over-delayed film and would now charge one lakh rupees per day. At last, Boney, Anil, Satish Kaushik and Baba Azmi formed a delegation to meet her on the sets of *Banjaran*. A truce is in sight.



Milan Singh, male or female

**For men only:** In Madras, a member of the censor board smelt a rat when a particular theatre announced noon shows "for men only." On closer inspection, he found that a Tamil film was showing pornographic lifted from foreign films and inserted in the film.

# Hollywood makes a powerful Aids film

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI) Aids has been taboo in movies since the disease began stalking the world.

Aids largely has involved homosexuality, which except in comedies has kept large audiences away from the box office.

Moreover, movies with unhappy endings or tragedies based on a disease such as cancer have had difficulty attracting audiences. A notable exception was *Terms of Endearment* in 1983.

Finally, however, a feature film has been made about Aids. It is *Longtime Companion*, released in May in New York and Los Angeles, cities that include large homosexual communities. It has received mostly praise by critics and will be more widely distributed.

*Longtime Companion* was brought to the screen by writer Craig Lucas and first-time film director Norman Rene outside the Hollywood mainstream. The Goldwyn company is distributing the drama, which involves eight major characters, half of whom die of aids-related conditions.

One of the most praised scenes features actor Bruce Davison helping his lover, played by Mark Lamos, accept the inevitability of his death by Aids.

At his Hollywood Hills home, which he shares with his actress wife Lisa Pelikan, Davison best known for his role in the cult film *Willard* in which he kissed a rat, said a movie about Aids is long overdue.

Unlike some actors who are chary about playing homosexuals for fear it will stigmatize them, Davison welcomed the opportunity.

"I'd be lying if I said the prospect of playing a gay character in a movie about Aids didn't give me some pause," he said. "But I'm a character actor, not concerned about my image."

"What attracted me was the complexities of the characters and the opportunity to work with Lucas and Rene. The script was a wonderful ensemble piece. "I loved the character of David. He starts with no commitment but he develops to become a courageous person."

"In the beginning he shares the national sense of denial about Aids, which is understandable when you feel threatened by death."

"I lived through that death scene almost word-for-word with my mother when she was dying. I asked her to let go of life."

"Finally, there have been people in my life who have died of Aids, including my first agent, my personal manager and my commercial agent, all within a year. They were all gay."

"I've had many actor friends who could have played this part. Men like Peter Evans who had a role in *Longtime Companion* but he died of Aids a week before he was to do his role."

"I was a pallbearer last week for a Vietnam vet who died of Aids. It goes on and on. The problem is not going away."

"I was honoured to have the opportunity to present this interpretation. It wasn't a matter of making a career move. I've had many ups and downs in my career for the past 20 years."

"At first I didn't know if anyone would see this movie."

# Here comes the wacky bride....

## In new Alan Alda comedy



Alan Alda

MOVIE star Alan Alda stood in a tent with the rain pouring down at his daughter Bea's wedding... and suddenly thought of a bright, multi-million dollar idea. He would make a movie about a wedding.

From that moment on, not a wink, not a groan, not a tart remark from a guest went un-noticed by ex-Dr Hawkeye of *M.A.S.H.*, the father of the bride.

And now 54-year-old Alan's research has paid off in his latest film, *Betsy's Wedding*. This comedy tells of the emotional ups and downs of two people — and two families — united in uneasy matrimony.

This time the bride is not daughter Beatrice, but actress Molly Ringwald. Brat-packer Ally Sheedy is another daughter at the highly-charged nuptials. But the father of the bride, Alan, just goes on playing himself.

Alan recalls how this wedding was born out of the other nuptials more than two years ago. He said, "We were all standing in this damp, rented tent when our youngest girl was married."

"I was shooting *A New Life* at the time, and I had to rush from the beach,

where we were filming a scene, out to the country for Bea's wedding."

"When she returned from her honeymoon, she played Judy, my daughter in the film, and was on the set when I married another character. It was then that I began writing this story."

Alan said that, although Bea's wedding was nothing like as fraught as Betsy's he realised what a "complex and tumultuous event a wedding really can be" when he and his wife Arlene were planning it.

Alan was also struck by the emotional impact of the event. "It's an emotionally-charged day. For a few minutes everyone feels a glimmer of hope that it's possible for two people to live happily together for the rest of their lives that people from different backgrounds and traditions can blend."

"Weddings can force people to go through changes. Romances begin, relationships fall apart and, as Eddie says in the film, 'People get crazy when they get married'."

Alan has come a long way since he was voted "the most popular TV per-

sonality" nearly ten years ago. That was when he was swabbing wounds and pulling strokes in a Korean military hospital as Hawkeye. In *Betsy's Wedding*, for example, he acts and directs as well as being the film's creator.

He appears to have inherited his sparkling talent from his father, the late and distinguished actor Robert Alda. Alan was already stepping into the spotlight at the age of 16, when he made his theatrical debut in Pennsylvania.

Making his way steadily to the top, he was acting on Broadway six years later and made his debut on celluloid in 1963. Notable films have been *California Suite* and *Paper Lion*.

Then in 1972, Alan achieved international success as silver-tongued Hawkeye Pierce in the long-running television series *M.A.S.H.* And it was during this time that he began to write and direct, winning five Emmy awards for episodes of the show.

And now he can even turn a family wedding into a blockbuster. At least, it more than paid the bill for daughter Bea's big day.



Eddie (Alan Alda) and his daughter Betsy (Molly Ringwald) have two different visions of her wedding day in the wacky comedy written and directed by Alda.

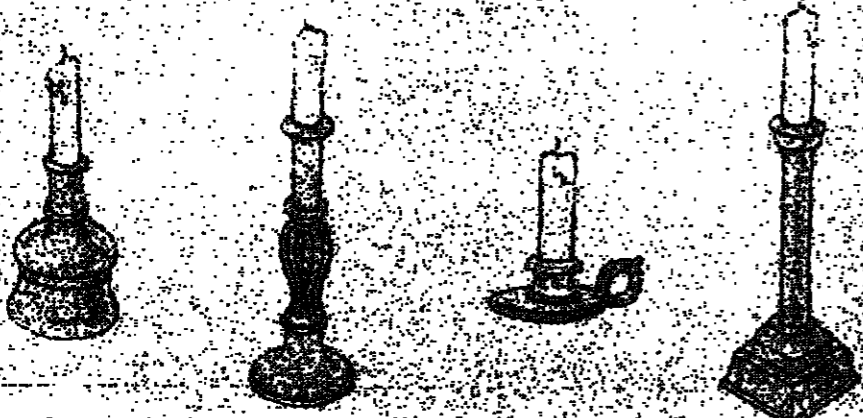


### Rhyme time

Jack be nimble,  
Jack be quick,  
Jack jump over  
The candlestick.



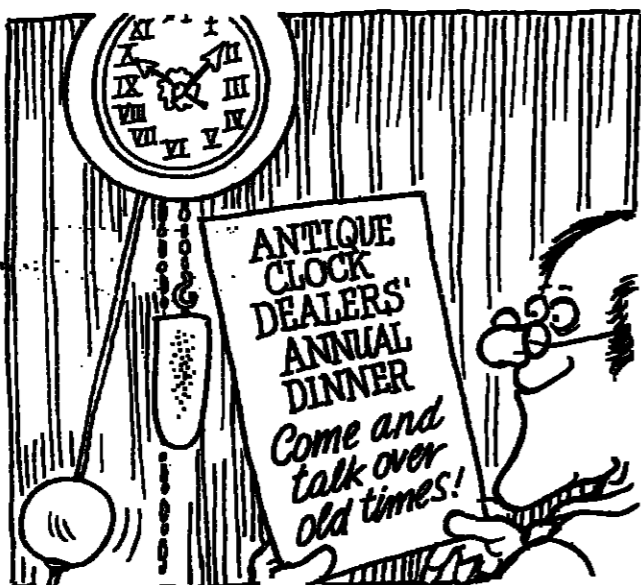
Find another candlestick like Jack's.



### Happy birthday



Milli Joseph turns 6 on July 20



Write the correct numbers in the spaces provided.

Example:  
 $\frac{4}{3} = \frac{3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} = 1 + \frac{1}{3} = 1\frac{1}{3}$

A.  $\frac{7}{5} = \frac{5}{5} + \frac{2}{5} = 1 + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{\quad}{5}$

B.  $\frac{9}{6} = \frac{6}{6} + \frac{3}{6} = 1 + \frac{3}{6} = \frac{\quad}{6}$

C.  $\frac{8}{7} = \frac{7}{7} + \frac{1}{7} = 1 + \frac{1}{7} = \frac{\quad}{7}$

D.  $\frac{11}{8} = \frac{8}{8} + \frac{3}{8} = 1 + \frac{3}{8} = \frac{\quad}{8}$

E.  $\frac{8}{6} = 1 + \frac{\quad}{6} = \frac{\quad}{6}$

F.  $\frac{14}{9} = 1 + \frac{\quad}{9} = \frac{\quad}{9}$

G.  $\frac{17}{10} = 1 + \frac{\quad}{10} = \frac{\quad}{10}$

H.  $\frac{10}{8} = \frac{\quad}{8}$

K.  $\frac{15}{12} = \frac{\quad}{12}$

I.  $\frac{12}{5} = \frac{\quad}{5}$

L.  $\frac{10}{9} = \frac{\quad}{9}$

J.  $\frac{19}{15} = \frac{\quad}{15}$

M.  $\frac{17}{6} = \frac{\quad}{6}$

### Wordsearch

#### FIX THE OLD CAR

This old car is impossible! Time to tow it in again and overhaul each and every part. Forty things are wrong with our auto; can you find them all?

- |           |           |           |          |         |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| BRAKES    | FUEL PUMP | LIGHTS    | RINGS    | TOW-IN  |
| COIL      | GARAGE    | LUBRICATE | ROTOR    | TUNE UP |
| CYLINDERS | GAS       | LUGS      | SIGNAL   | VALVES  |
| DIESEL    | GASKET    | MOTOR     | SPARE    | WIPERS  |
| DRIVE     | GEARS     | PARTS     | SPEED    |         |
| ENGINE    | GREASE    | PISTON    | STARTER  |         |
| EXHAUST   | HOOD      | PLUGS     | TAILPIPE |         |
| FILTER    | HOSE      | RADIO     | TEST     |         |
| FLAT      | IGNITION  | REPAIR    | TIRES    |         |

CRINGSREPIPLIAT  
DOOHEHOSISPEEDO  
CYIRESTTPLESGIS  
GYALNHOOHTOKDGP  
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### Colouring time



### Amazing facts

THE mother of US president Ulysses S. Grant was often in Washington during her son's presidency, but never visited him at the White House.

A citizen of Calcutta, India, grew the fingernails on his left hand to a length of 76 inches.

A crowd estimated at between 60,000 and 70,000 attended the funeral in October 1973 of marathon champion Abebe Bikila of Ethiopia.

The smallest independent country in the world is Vatican City — with a zero birth rate.

A Yorkshire woman succeeded in gaining her driving licence at her fortieth attempt.

The first occasion when a flag was flown at half-mast as a mark of respect for the dead was in 1612. It was lowered to half-mast when the captain of a ship had been killed by Eskimos.

Man-made satellites were first suggested by Sir Isaac Newton in a work published in 1687.

In India in 1970 there was a school in the Jamma district with one pupil and one teacher.

A hippopotamus can run faster than a man.

Louis Braille who invented system of reading for the blind, developed it from messages used by French troops who punched marks in paper so they could be read at night without the use of light.

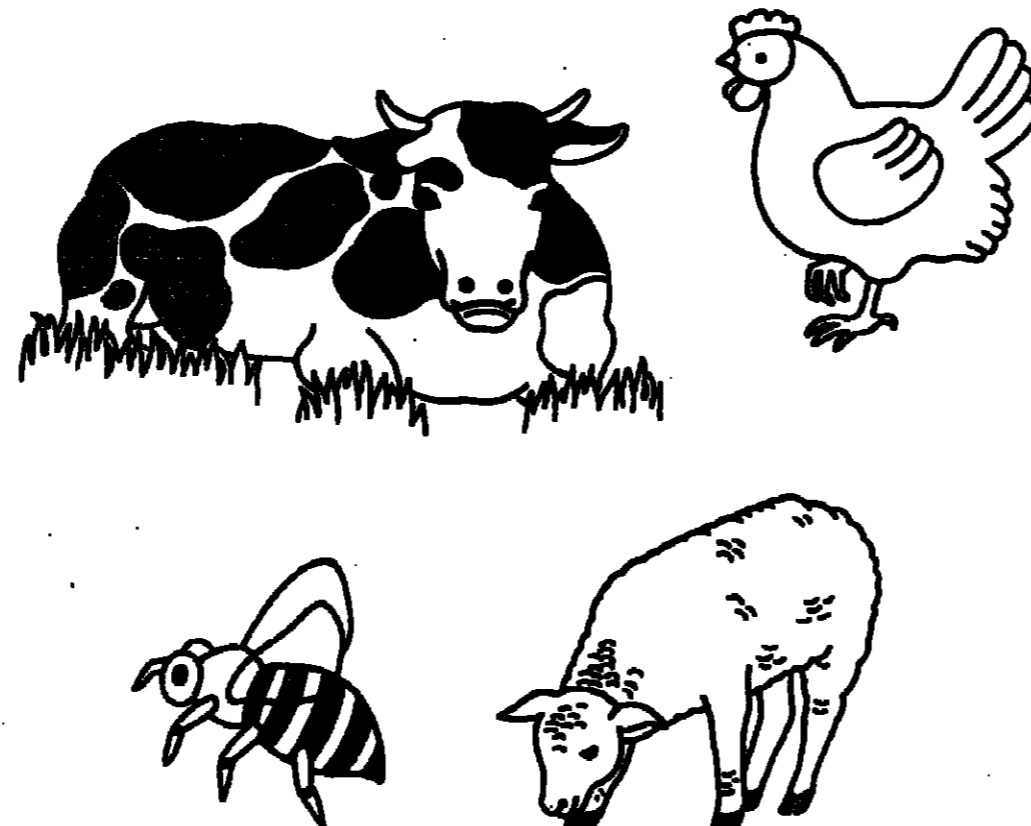
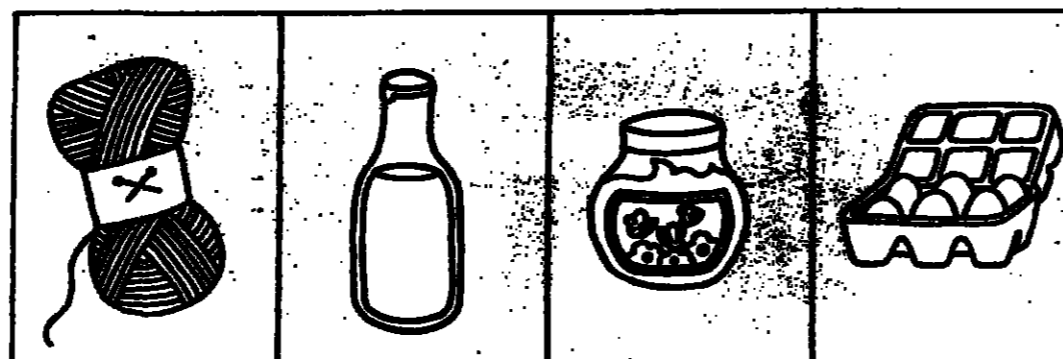
The British 'X' certificate was introduced in 1951.

In 1889 a Hungarian princess named Anthony Koharry was officially designated a man, as she was the last of her line.

An Indian was pronounced dead in 1886 when both circulation and breathing stopped. As preparations for his funeral were being made, it was found that the man was breathing — and he lived for another 32 years.

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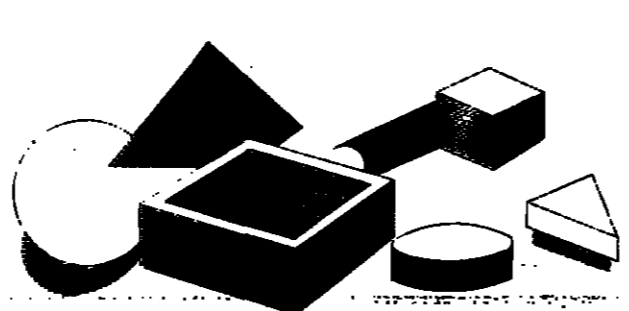
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# Austrians prepare for Davis Cup semifinal against Americans

VIENNA, July 18, (UPI) Five tons of prime Carinthian dirt teamed with one of the world's best clay court specialists may well be Austria's winning combination in its Davis Cup semifinal against the United States.

The Austrians, who blanked Italy 5-0 in the quarterfinals in Vienna last spring, intend capitalising on home advantage when they face their daunting opponents in September.

"The Americans are very good on clay, just as they are on a hard surface," Peter Nadler, the general secretary of the Austrian Tennis Federation, warned.

"But we're hoping that the extra efforts and expense of building the court with this special sand from the Carinthian province will be the extra punch we need," he added.

The dirt, mined from the heart of the Carinthian Alps in the south of Austria, will cost the federation an estimated \$60,000 including construction for the three-day match scheduled to start September 21.

"It's expensive but we found out years ago that the best advantage is every advantage in terms of preparation for an event like this," Nadler said.

The United States, with 28 Davis Cup victories under its belt, is the most successful team in the history of the competition. Austria, in contrast, had never made it beyond the quarterfinals until it pounded Italy in March.

"The win in March was partly luck," Nadler said. "By defeating the Swedes in Italy in the first round, the Italians eliminated a potentially dangerous opponent from the picture."

"But it was our careful planning, which includes asking our players what they want, that prevented us from letting an opportunity to host the event just slip through our fingers," he added.

Too much concentration on the court surface, however, caused an uproar when Austria hosted Australia in last year's Davis Cup opening round in Vienna.

The specially built clay court at Vienna's indoor ferry Dusika Stadium, boasting an innovative coconut net base, was heavily criticised by the Australians as being too slow.

"We've learned from our mistakes," Nadler said.

# McEnroe tames Chamberlin

## Gilbert defeats Teltscher



McEnroe benefited from Chamberlin's generosity

WASHINGTON, July 18, (UPI) John McEnroe and second-seeded Brad Gilbert scored straight sets victories last night to advance to the third round of the \$550,000 Sovran Bank Classic.

McEnroe, the third seed, defeated Paul Chamberlin 6-2, 6-3 and Gilbert eliminated Eliot Teltscher, 6-1, 7-5, in the other evening featured match.

McEnroe benefited from Chamberlin's generosity in the second set.

Trailing 2-3 and with the serve in the second set, Chamberlin hit a shot that appeared to be long, but the ball was ruled in by the side judge, prompting an argument from McEnroe. After a lengthy discussion between the players and the umpire, the point was awarded to McEnroe.

**Twice**

McEnroe eventually won the game to go up a service break and held serve twice to win the match.

"I felt the ball was very far out and I felt it was just being fair," Chamberlin said. "I can't say that I've done that before and I can't say I'll do it again."

"When he gave up the point I thought two things," McEnroe said. "I said 'one, he's either trying to pull some reverse psychology stuff or two, what he just did was real nice for tennis. I choose to believe the latter because I want to be an optimistic thinker.'"

McEnroe was in control for most of the match, holding his serve throughout, but said he still played below his ability.

"I don't really expect to win here," he said. "But I wouldn't discount it completely."

In the second evening match, Gilbert won the first set easily. Teltscher used a service break to go ahead 4-1 in the second set, but Gilbert won the next four games and was serving for the match. But he didn't win a point in that game as Teltscher evened the score at 5-5.

But after a long duce, Teltscher lost of his own serve and Gilbert served out for the match.

Teltscher, who beat Jeff Tarango in the first round, was making his first tour appearance since July 1988, when he quit the game because he wasn't enjoying it. Despite yesterday's loss, he was encouraged by his progress.

"I played him I think twice (before his retirement)," Gilbert said. "It was just like a normal match, just like he'd been playing all along."

"The first set, I was just very nervous and very tight," Teltscher said. "When I was playing, Brad was a tough guy for me to play."

In the afternoon's feature match, fourth-seeded and defending champion Tim Mayotte took 72 minutes to beat India's Ramesh Krishnan, 6-2, 6-2.

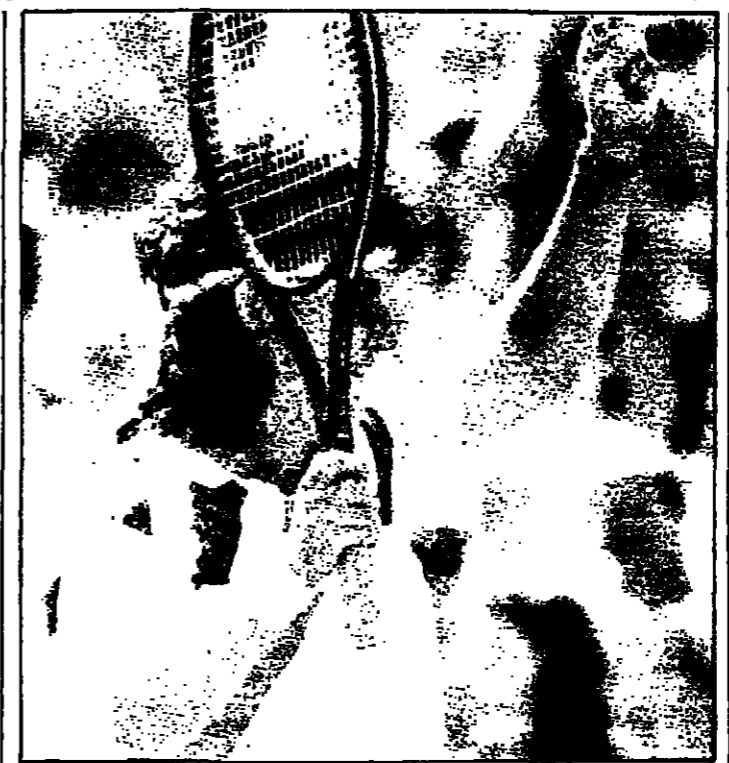
Others seeds advancing to the second round yesterday were No 10 Jakob Hlasek, No 13 Gary Muller, No 14 Todd Witsken, No 15 Gilan Bloom and No 16 Andrew Szajder.

There were three upsets, however, as No 9 Christo van Rensburg, No 11 Mark Kratzmann and No 12 Milan Srejber were all eliminated.

**Losing**

Van Rensburg moved out to a 3-0 first-set lead over Darren Cahill before dropping 12 of the next 13 games en route to a 6-4, 6-0 loss. Kratzmann fell to fellow Australian Simon Youl, 6-3, 6-4, and Srejber was beaten by Canada's Grant Connell, 6-3, 7-6.

In a match involving two Wimbledon Cinderellas, Brad Pearce was a three-set winner over Bryan Shelton. At Wimbledon, Pearce advanced to the quarterfinals before losing to Ivan Lendl and Shelton lost to Lendl in the third round.



Sanchez reaches 2nd round

# Sanchez sails past Helgeson

NEWPORT, Rhode Island, July 18, (UPI) Top seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario used her steady groundstrokes yesterday to eliminate qualifier Ginger Helgeson of San Diego 6-3, 6-3 and advance to the second round of the \$225,000 Virginia Slims of Newport.

The 1989 French Open champion, ranked No. 7, forced Helgeson into numerous errors at net.

"I have good groundstrokes and I force a lot of pressure," said the 18-year-old from Spain. "Her hand was a little loose on her volleys."

Sanchez was also pleased with her service returns. She broke six of nine service games by the 253rd-ranked Helgeson.

A first-round loser on the grass courts of Wimbledon, Sanchez spent the past week practicing on the turf at Longwood Cricket Club to prepare for Newport, the only remaining grass-court tournament on the women's US circuit.

"Not many like to play after Wimbledon," Sanchez said. "They like to rest. But I want to play on grass to get better."

Second seed Laura Gildemeister of Peru lost her early momentum and her opening-round match, falling to Australia's Liz Smylie 2-6, 7-6 (7-2), 6-3.

Gildemeister, ranked 17th, lost just six points in the first five games while taking a 5-0 lead.

But Smylie, ranked 49th and the possessor of one of the best forehands in women's tennis, began to get into the match midway through the second set. She took a 3-0 lead in the tiebreaker, held a 4-2 advantage then took the final three points to even the match.

In the third set, Smylie led 5-3 then broke Gildemeister's serve at 30 with a forehand down the line.

In the other first-round match involving a seeded player, No. 4 Rosalyn Fairbank-Nideffer ousted Jill Smoller, 6-1, 6-2.

In matches involving unseeded players, Louise Field, Australia, defeated Patty Fendick, 6-4, 6-4.

Julie Richardson, New Zealand, beat Andrea Farley, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4. Erika de Lone eliminated Belinda Cordwell, New Zealand, 6-3, 6-2. Robyn Field, South Africa, ousted Kate Gompert, 6-4, 6-1.

Audra Keller topped Julie Salmon, Britain, 6-4, 6-4, and Wendy White outlasted Ann Henricksson, 6-4, 4-6, 7-5.

# Stage set for start of Goodwill Games

SEATTLE, July 18, (UPI) Athletes from around the world brought the Goodwill Games Village to life yesterday, creating the look and feel of a big-time athletic event in a city preparing for the largest multi-sport competition outside the Olympics.

"A lot of people have been planning and working very hard towards this day for a long, long time," said Bob Walsh, who as president of the Seattle Organising Committee has nurtured the Goodwill Games to fruition.

"It is finally here."

Flights increased into the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, more than 300 members of the media had arrived, first Lady Barbara Bush prepared for a visit and security was steadily tightened.

The Games begin Friday with competition in volleyball and swimming and will continue through Aug. 5. More than 50 countries will send 2,500 competitors to take part in 21 sports in venues spread out across the state of Washington.

Although athletes began to drift into town Monday, the activity increased dramatically in the village yesterday. And with the Games only three days away, much of the attention was focused on the arrivals from the Soviet Union.

There was a question, however, as to whether that group would include world pole vault record-holder Sergei Bubka.

Nikolai Rusek, chairman of the Soviet Ministry of Physical Culture and Sport, said on his arrival in Seattle that Bubka had an injured back and would not compete in Goodwill Games. Bubka did compete in Barcelona last weekend and finished sixth with a vault of 18-feet, 1-3/4 inches (5.53 m), 21 inches (53 cm) shy of his world record.

A spokesman for the Athletics Congress, however, said Bubka would show up.

**Campus**

The first of the Soviet athletes who arrived early this week were housed in their own dormitory on the campus of the University of Washington. Dorm rooms for the rest of the competitors were arranged by sport rather than by country so that figure skaters, baseball players, swimmers and all the rest could mingle with athletes in their own field — no matter their nationality.

"That's great," said Mike Barronman, world record-holder in the 200-metre breaststroke. "That means you get to meet your competitors and that is what this is all about. That doesn't happen at the Olympics."

"It seems to be really well thought out and organized here. That's more than I can say about the other international events I've been to. Of course it is the first day so I can't tell a lot. But you have to believe they will do a really good job about it."

"The one thing I don't like is that we are a long way from the competition site (in Tacoma, 30 miles — 48 km — away). So I'm just going to use the university pool here to work out."

Very few of those taking part will stay in Seattle during the entire two weeks of the Goodwill Games. As a cost-saving device, athletes are scheduled to arrive only a few days before the start of their event and leave shortly after it is over.

The village, lined with electrified fences and off limits to students and officials from the university, was guarded yesterday by 200 Washington state troopers. Every item headed into the village had to go through a metal detector and it took four days before clearance was finally given for the goods that were stockpiled in the village drug store.

# Jones Junior KO's mystery opponent

PENSACOLA, Florida, July 18, (AP) US boxer Roy Jones Jr. thought he knocked out the Texas junior, middleweight champion. Now he doesn't know what to think.

Investigations began yesterday into allegations that the boxer Jones beat on Saturday wasn't the man he said he was.

Jones, the Olympic silver medalist in his ninth pro fight, scored a first-round knock out over someone who claimed to be Derwin Richards, Texas junior middleweight champ.

"I was definitely not there," Richards, a security guard at a Houston Correctional Facility, said in an interview published in yesterday's editions of the Pensacola News Journal. "I would like to fight Roy Jones, but that wasn't me, fighting."

Richards' manager, Willie Savannah backed up the fighter. Stanley Levin, president of Square Ring Inc., a Pensacola company that promoted the match, said he turned over all records of the fight to state attorney Curtis Golden after meeting with the prosecutor yesterday.

"I hope the people involved in his spend a long time in jail because that young man (who fought Jones) could have really been hurt," Levin said.

Golden said he is trying to determine whether any fraud was involved and whether the fight violated the state's law on pugilistic exhibitions, including a provision that requires participants to be licensed by the state.

# Paes gets top junior world ranking

LONDON, July 18, (AP) Victory in the boys' event at Wimbledon has helped move Leander Paes of India to No 1 in the junior world tennis rankings.

Paes, who beat Marcos Ondruska of South Africa 7-5, 2-6, 6-4 at Wimbledon, rose from ninth place, according to the lists based on the previous 52 weeks' tournaments and published yesterday by the International Tennis Federation.

The former No 1, Martin Damm of Czechoslovakia, fell to third.

In the girls' list, Bulgaria's Magdalena Maleeva moved from third to first, replacing Czechoslovak Andrea Stradova at the top. Stradova, the winner of the Wimbledon girls' title, dropped to No. 2.

Jennifer Capriati of the United States was eighth, falling steadily down the junior rankings as she rose rapidly through the senior list.

In Estoril, Portugal top-seed Isabel Cueto of West Germany defeated her compatriot Angela Kerek in three sets yesterday to advance to the second round of the \$100,000 Estoril Ladies' Open.

Cueto, the defending champion, won 6-4, 7-6, 7-3 as the temperatures at the Carcavelos Club soared to a sizzling 37C (99 F).

No. 2 seed Sandra Cecchini of Italy dominated the net and sent Leona Laskova of Czechoslovakia all over the centre court to earn an easy 6-0, 6-0 victory after only 30 minutes.

The win sends Cecchini, fresh from her victory at last week's Swedish open, into the second round.

**Stuttgart, West Germany:** Men's singles results at the one-million-dollar Grand Prix tennis championships in Stuttgart yesterday:

First round: Eric Jelen (West Germany) beat Olivier Delaistre (France) 6-7 (4-7) 6-1 7-5; Luiz Mattar (Brazil) beat Martin Sinner (West Germany) 6-3 6-7 (5-7) 7-5; Sergi Bruguera (Spain) beat Udo Riggewald (West Germany) 7-6 (7-3) 6-4; Andrei Cherkasov (Soviet Union) beat Jan Gunnarsson (Sweden) 6-2 5-7 6-4; Jorgen Windahl (Sweden) beat Alex Antonitsch (Austria) 4-0 (Antonitsch withdrew); Jimmy Arias (USA) beat Alberto Mancini (Argentina) 6-4 6-3; Javier Sanchez (Spain) beat Richard Vogel (Czechoslovakia) 7-6 (10-8) 6-2; Jaime Yzaga (Peru) beat Jean-Philippe Fleurian (France) 5-7 6-4 7-6 (7-3); Richard Fromberg (Australia) beat Thierry Tulasne (France) 4-6 6-2 7-5.

Second round: Tomas Carbonell (Spain) beat Carl-Uwe Steeb (West Germany) 6-3 7-5; Emilio Sanchez (Spain) beat Jens Woehrmann (West Germany) 4-6 6-3 6-3; Wally Masur (Australia) beat Juan Aguilera (Spain) 7-6 (9-7) 7-5.



Paes: Junior Wimbledon champion

# Comaneci in S. Korea

SEOUL, July 18, (UPI) Nadia Comaneci, the gymnastics star of the 1976 Montreal Olympics, was in Seoul yesterday for a one week visit at the invitation of Kim Sang-Min, a Korean businessman living in the United States.

Comaneci, 29, told reporters she was through with Constantin Panait who helped her defect from her native Romania into Hungary in November 1989.

"He is just a businessman who made by helping refugees cross the border. He drove me close to the border and asked me \$5,000 for his help. I refused. I just crossed the border myself," the Korea Herald quoted her as saying.

Comaneci denied rumours she and Panait had an intimate relationship after coming to the United States following defection, the paper said.

# Scudder leads Reds to 6-2 victory over Expos

CINCINNATI, July 18, (AP) Scott Scudder struck out a career-high nine in an unexpected start last night, leading the Cincinnati Reds to a 6-2 victory over the Montreal Expos in a National League baseball game.

Scudder (2-2) got a last-minute call when left-hander Danny Jackson couldn't get his shoulder loose in the bullpen before the game. Scudder allowed eight hits over 6-1/3 innings, including solo homers by Dave Martinez and Andres Galarraga.

Scudder, a middle reliever who pitched 2-2/3 innings on Saturday, was replaced by Rob Dibble in the seventh. Randy Myers got the last three outs for the Reds.

The Reds scored their first four runs off mark Gardner (6-5), who had his earned-run average swell from an NL-leading 2.32 to 2.52.

**Cubs 7, Padres 2**

Cubs rookie Shawn Boskie allowed six hits in 6-2/3 innings and capped six-run, fifth inning with a two-run double.

It was the third straight win for the Cubs and the 15th loss for the Padres in their last 18 games.

Boskie (4-5) walked two and struck out two before leaving in the seventh following singles by Tom Lampkin and Shawn Abner. Lampkin, who had singled in the fifth for his first Major League hit, scored on a sacrifice fly by Bip Roberts.

Andy Benes (6-7) was the loser, allowing five runs on eight hits. Five of Chicago's seven runs were unearned.

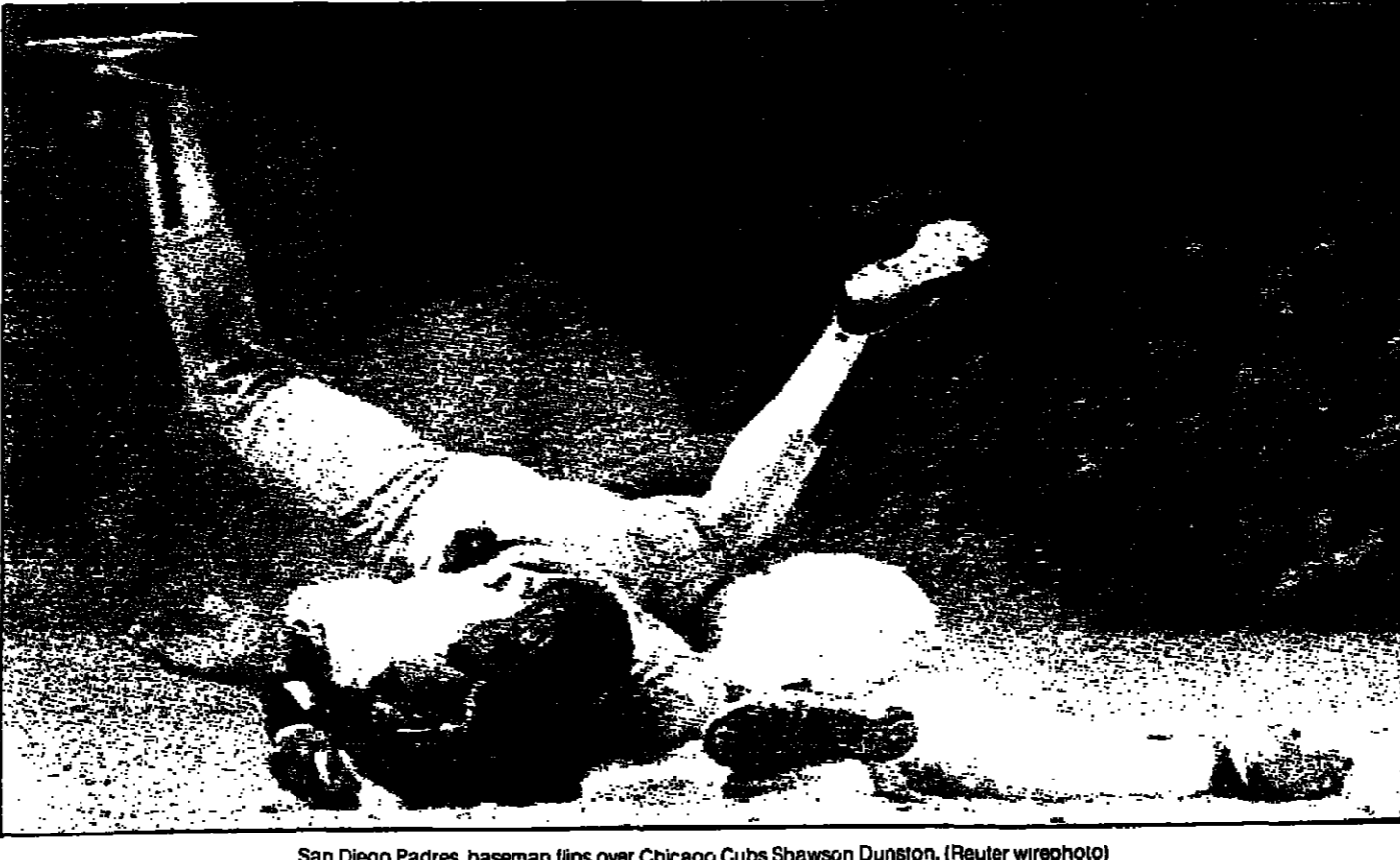
**Mets 6, Astros 2**

Dwight Gooden won his seventh straight start and Kevin McReynolds went 4-for-4 for the Mets.

Gooden (10-5), who hasn't lost since June 2, gave up seven hits, struck out 10 and walked three over 7-2/3 innings. John Franco finished for his 19th save.

The Mets had 16 hits, including two doubles and a homer by Howard Johnson. New York has won 20 of its last 26 games and 10 of its last 15 on the road.

Bill Gullickson (6-7) took the loss, giving up five runs on 10 hits in 5-2/3 innings.



San Diego Padres, baseman flips over Chicago Cubs Shawn Dunston. (Reuter wirephoto)

in 5-2/3 innings.

**Giants 6, Pirates 3**

Matt Williams hit a tie-breaking Grand Slam in the sixth and Don Robinson pitched eight strong innings for the Giants.

Robinson (6-1), traded to the Giants by Pittsburgh in August 1987, was facing the Pirates for the first time since going 0-3 with an 8.20 ERA against them last season. He struck out four and walked one.

**Cardinals 3, Dodgers 0**

Bryn Smith won his first game in six weeks and Pedro Guerrero had two doubles and two RBIs as the Cardinals shut out the Dodgers.

Fernando Valenzuela, facing the Cardinals for the first time since throwing a no-hitter against them on June 29, gave up six hits in six innings. Five of the hits were doubles.

Guerrero doubled off Valenzuela (7-8) to lead off the second, and had a two-run double in the fourth.

**Results**

National League			
Chicago	7	San Diego	2
Cincinnati	6	Montreal	2
San Francisco	6	Pittsburgh	3
Atlanta	14	Philadelphia	10
New York	6	Houston	2
St. Louis	3	Los Angeles	0
American League			
Cleveland	4	Oakland	2
Kansas City	10	New York	7
Baltimore	5	Texas	3
Boston	1	Minnesota	0
Chicago	7	Detroit	3
Seattle	7	Toronto	5
California	8	Milwaukee	1

Since swimming is the first of the major events to crank up at the Goodwill Games, several of that sport's superstars roamed the village yesterday. Among them was Janet Evans, winner of three gold medals in the Seoul Olympics. She was named the United States Olympic Committee's 1989 Sports-woman of the Year.

Evans, who will compete in the 400-, 800- and 1,500-metre freestyle races as well as in the 400-metre individual medley, attracted a wave of autograph seekers during her first trip to the village's yogurt stand yesterday.

The official opening ceremonies for the competition will not take place until Saturday, but the thousands of volunteers who have given their time to the Goodwill Games effort will enjoy their own ceremony tomorrow.

Barbara Bush will visit with the volunteers at Memorial Stadium at Seattle Centre in the shadow of the city's landmark Space Needle. The First Lady will make the side trip to Seattle while her husband is on a fund-raising mission for Republican congressional candidates in Montana and Idaho.

## SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Unity cricket

ENTRIES are now open for teams wishing to participate in the Unity cricket tournament 1990/91 season scheduled to commence in mid-September, 1990 at the Kuwait Oil Co. grounds in Ahmadi. For details contact Deniz Mencas on 3989671 between 6.30 and 8.00 pm. Closing date for entries — August 1, 1990. Preference will be given to teams wishing to play on Thursdays and Fridays.

## Palmer sues

ORLANDO, Florida, July 18, (UPI): Legendary golfer Arnold Palmer has accused a Japanese firm in an \$8 million lawsuit of secretly using his name to sell interests in a club. The complaint, filed Monday in circuit court, alleges that WDI Systems of Japan used Palmer's name to sell interest and memberships in the Bay Hill of Orlando. The suit charges the company reneged on its commitment to buy the club when it sales efforts failed.

## World basketball

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, July 18, (AP): The United States rallied from a two-point halftime deficit to defeat Cuba 87-78 in the final round of the 11th Women's World Basketball Championship last night. In other final round matches, it was Yugoslavia 81, Czechoslovakia 66; Bulgaria 65, Canada 61; and the Soviet Union 70, Australia 60.

## Double bid

BRASILIA, Brazil, July 18, (AP): Brazil said yesterday that it will enter a bid to host the 1996 World Cup and the 2000 Summer Olympic Games. Secretary of Sports Artur Nunes Coimbra said in a TV interview that the government was forming a commission to promote Brazil in its bid to host both events.

## Coach banned

INDIANAPOLIS, July 18, (Reuters): A three-member panel from the Athletics Congress has suspended former track coach Chuck DeBus from athletics for life for encouraging athletes to use banned substances, TAC announced yesterday.

## New backer

LONDON, July 18, (UPI): Britain's Commonwealth Games javelin champion Tessa Sanderson is seeking a new backer to help achieve her ambition of ending her career with a second Olympic gold medal at the 1992 Barcelona Summer Olympics. Sanderson, the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic gold medalist, said yesterday: "I am trying to find a backer for Barcelona as I am getting no help from the (British) Athletics Board."

## \$900,000 deal

MANCHESTER, England, July 18, (UPI): Manchester City manager Howard Kendall yesterday agreed a £500,000 (\$900,000) transfer fee with Middlesbrough for 24-year-old midfielder Mark Brennan. The deal will take Kendall's spending in his first months in charge of the English First Division soccer club to more than £4 million (\$7.2 million).

## Two-year deal

NANCY, France, July 18, (UPI): Aime Jacquet, former head coach of Bordeaux and Montpellier soccer clubs, has signed a two-year deal to coach at Nancy, which won promotion to the French First Division for the forthcoming season. Jacquet, who coached Bordeaux to three French titles and two French Cups, said his new job would be "a different adventure, but not less stimulating."

## Rowing event

VIENNA, July 18, (UPI): Following successes at Henley and at the international regatta at Lausanne by its rowing crews, Austria will send six boats to the 1990 World Rowing Championships at Lake Barrington in Tasmania, Australia, at the end of October.

## Slovakia cycling

BRATISLAVA, Austria, July 18, (UPI): Riders from eight countries will contest the 34th Cycle Tour of Slovakia, a World Cup event, starting July 26 in the east Slovakian town of Presov. The Czechoslovak news agency CTK, have reported. Riders from West and East Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Holland, Greece, Austria and Switzerland are scheduled to compete. Soviet Union riders will miss this year's Tour because it coincides with their national championships.

## Positive balance

VIENNA, July 18, (UPI): As the Austrian parliament completes its final business before going to the polls in November, Sports Minister Dr. Hilde Hankele has reported a positive balance in funds made available for sports. Largely due to the lucrative sports Toto lottery the 1990 sports budget exceeds by 35 million Austrian schillings to 448 million schillings (\$37.5 million).

## UEFA Cup

VIENNA, July 18, (UPI): Austrian First Division club Rapid Vienna is still struggling with the problem of where to stage its UEFA Cup first round first-leg match against Inter Milan on Sept. 19. Rapid's Hanappi Stadium is undergoing major renovations and may not be ready in time.

## Track meeting

LINZ, Austria, July 18, (UPI): Three years ago when the first Linzer "Guel" international track and field meeting was proposed, organisers were the object of mirth. Critics stopped laughing last year when the meeting attracted not only top international athletes, but also 13,000 spectators. With secure sponsors and the backing of the city fathers, out to make the meeting a high point of Linz' 500th birthday, organisers have a budget of 4 million Austrian schilling (\$330,000), which will be largely used to attract top athletes to the Aug. 22 event.

## Soviet wins Tour stage

## LeMond steals the show



Konishev raises his arms in victory (Reuters wirephoto)

PAU, France, July 18, (Reuters): Dimitri Konishev today became the first Soviet rider to win a stage in the Tour de France, but American Greg LeMond still stole the show.

On a day which saw no changes among the race leaders, Konishev sprinted to victory to win the 150-km 17th stage from Lodres in four hours eight minutes 25 seconds.

He and Johan Bruyneel of Belgium had pulled away from a breakaway group not long before the approach to Pau as the race moved out of the Pyrenees. Konishev, second to LeMond in last year's world professional road race, held off the challenge from the Belgian, Steve Bauer of Canada, was third, some 11 seconds behind.

All the race leaders finished in the main peloton five minutes 31 seconds further behind, although not before a scare involving LeMond.

He suffered a puncture on the last climb of the Tour, the Col de Marie-Blanque, just after 1988 Tour winner Pedro Delgado of Spain launched an attack.

LeMond lost two minutes on the bunch, which included race leader Claudio Chiappucci of Italy, while he waited for a wheel change.

But his "Z" team stayed behind to help and worked hard to get him back among the main group again.

LeMond, who is expected to win his third Tour de France title when the race finishes in Paris on Sunday, remains just five seconds behind Chiappucci in the overall standings.

Apart from punctures, his main problem seems to be saddle-sores. He confessed before the stage that he was suffering from a 7.5-cm-long raw wound.

But he said it would not stop him finishing the Tour and there has been no sign that it is handicapping him unduly.

He is not the only member of the walking wounded brigade in the race. There were rumours before the stage that Delgado, third overall, would not start because of intestinal problems.

The Spaniard, who had been surprisingly lacking in aggression in the mountain stages, said yesterday he had been suffering for several days.

But he put that all aside in his impressive break on the last climb, even if he finally drew no profit from it.

The race goes into two flat days, starting with tomorrow's 18th stage of 202 kms.

## DHL rout Millat

DHL Cricket Club reach the final by defeating Quaid-e-Millat Cricket Club by 65 runs in the Super Royal Cricket Tournament, at Khaitan Grounds on Friday.

After winning the toss, DHL skipper Ayub elected to bat. The opening pair Rodney and Shabeer put on 19 runs. Shabeer was first to be bowled by Riffat on 10. Ayub joined Rodney and both played cautiously, putting on 48 runs for the 2nd wicket partnership. Rodney had a number of boundaries and a straight six to his credit.

Ayub's played well scoring 59 runs with the help of five boundaries and a six. DHL managed to score 164 runs for loss of 6 wickets at the 20 allotted overs.

For Quaid-e-Millat Riffat claimed two wickets while Zameel, Amjad and Jawad got one each.

In reply, Millat opened the innings through Inam and Jawad. Rony uprooted Jawad's stump on 2 off his first ball of the 2nd over and then on the 5th ball he had Inam bowled out 7 with the score only 12 runs.

Pervaiz also fell victim to Rony when he was bowled for 9 and the score was 21. Riffat and Zameel then showed their talent and took the score to 82.

Riffat was run out for 36 with four fours and one six, while Zameel was caught at mid-off, off Anil for 24. Amjad was bowled by Ayub for 8. Anil then had Sadatqat caught by Ayub at long-on and Anwar caught behind on 6. Quaid-e-Millat were bundled out for only 99 runs.

For DHL, Rony claimed 3 wickets for 16 runs, Anil 3 wickets for 28 and Ayub one wicket for 16 runs.



Ayub: 59 not out

## Real Madrid sign Yugoslav

MADRID, July 18, (Reuters): Spanish soccer champions Real Madrid said yesterday they had signed Yugoslav World Cup defender Predrag Spasic for the next four seasons.

Real have already acquired Romania's World Cup midfielder George Hagi and the team's latest acquisition from Partizan Belgrade puts the future of their Argentine defender Oscar Ruggeri in doubt.

Under Spanish soccer rules a club can field only three foreigners and Real now have Hagi, Spasic, Ruggeri and Mexican marksman Hugo Sanchez on their books.

## Confident Faldo hopes to draw strength from British Open memories

ST ANDREWS, Scotland, July 18, (Reuters): The first time US Masters champion Nick Faldo attended the British Open he slept in a tent and wore his pyjamas under his clothes to keep out the cold.

Nowadays he can afford the best hotels and his dress sense is a touch more sophisticated. But Faldo believes his youthful memories could help him to win his second Open title in four years over the Old Course this week.

The Briton revealed yesterday that his first visit to a wet and windy Troon in 1973, at the age of 16, had taught him how to spot an Open champion.

"I went to Troon with my dad and we watched Tom Weiskopf practise in his street shoes."

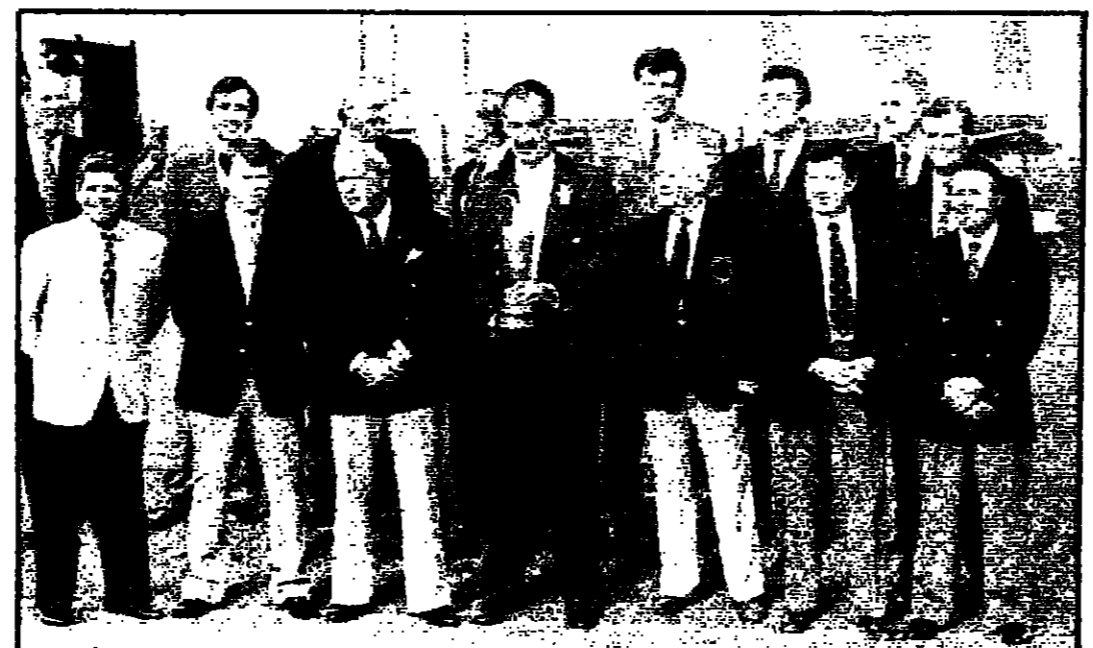
"He was swinging the club so well I said: 'He'll win Dad.' It turned out to be a pretty good guess for a first time."

Faldo has developed into the most consistent player in world golf over the past three years and is cautiously optimistic that there are signs of a champion in his own swing at present.

"I can't wait to get started," he said. "The course is in great shape and there's a great atmosphere. I just want to play well enough to be in with a chance on Sunday afternoon."

Faldo came within a fraction of joining the playoff for the US Open at Medinah in June when his perfectly-struck putt lipped the 72nd hole but he does not believe the painful episode will cloud his chances this time.

"I thrive on the pressure. There's no point being scared or



Past winners pose for photographers. Left to right (Back row): Tom Weiskopf, Severiano Ballesteros, Greg Norman, Jack Nicklaus, Nick Faldo, Tony Jacklin, Bob Charles and Sandy Lyle. Front row: Lee Trevino, Tom Watson, Arnold Palmer, Michael Attenborough (captain of Royal and Ancient), Fred Daly, Peter Thompson and Gary Player. (Reuters wirephoto)

frightened of it.

"I try to copy Jack Nicklaus who used to look into the crowd and say: 'Isn't this great, this is what I've been working for.'"

Mark Calcavecchia cashed in heavily after winning the British Open golf tournament last year but says second title would mean so much more to him than money.

"If I hadn't made a dime, that would be okay," the American said on Tuesday. "Now that I have won once, I want another one real bad."

"I'd even pay the Royal and

Ancient to win it again," he joked.

Calcavecchia came almost from nowhere last year, catching Australians Greg Norman and Wayne Grady by birdying the 18th hole twice, once to reach the playoff and then to win.

Now he has come to golf's traditional home at St Andrews to defend his title, helped by playing seven rounds over the Old Course during the Dunhill Cup team event last autumn.

"I appreciated the history more last year during the Dunhill because it was my first time here,"

he said. "Now I think more about the golf course."

Greg Norman, top of the world golf rankings for most of the past five years, has been consistent under-achiever in grand slam events.

He has won just one major, the 1986 British Open at Turnberry, and there is no shortage of detractors who say it is time he lifted another.

"I think they're right. Of course I'd like to do it again," the big Australian said after a tune-up round for this year's British Open



Milla (right) in action during the World Cup.

## Milla likely to play in L.A. next season

BRUSSELS, July 18, (UPI): Veteran Cameroon striker Roger Milla, one of the outstanding performers at the 1990 World Soccer Cup finals in Italy, is to play in Los Angeles next season, he said yesterday.

He confirmed that in spite of interest from Molenbeek of Belgium and Italian and Spanish clubs, Los Angeles has come closest at striking a deal with the Cameroon lion.

"My contract will be announced soon," the 38-year-old forward said.

Cameroon became the first African team to make the World Cup quarterfinals, but Milla brushed aside ideas that no other African team could do better.

"Nigeria is absolute tops," he said, "while Egypt bowed out in Italy this year with no losses. Africa has splendid teams and I applaud Fifa president Joa Havelange's idea of entering three African teams in the next World Cup."

Milla was in semi-retirement at Saint Pierre on the French island of Reunion before he was catapulted centrestage with his four-goal performance at the World Cup.

He arrived in Brussels to record a single called "Un enfant, cest la vie." (A child, that is life — to be released in September) and looked visibly overwhelmed by the official welcome at the ACP house, the European headquarters of the Africa, Caribic and Pacific nations.

## Cup balloon report denied

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, July 18, (Reuters): A Honduran newspaper which reported yesterday that a balloon launched in Italy at the opening ceremony of the World Cup had floated to Honduras said later in the day the report was false.

German Quintanilla, editor of the El Tiempo newspaper, told Reuters he realised the paper had been duped after a reporter went to the village where the balloon

was reported to have landed and was told no balloon had been seen in the area.

El Tiempo and the La Prensa daily both reported that a multi-coloured balloon launched in Italy had been found and placed as a tourist attraction in a school in the village of Cuchilla Alta, some 160 km (100 miles) north-west of Tegucigalpa.

They based their reports on a local radio bulletin.

## Filipinos take on KSSC

A TEAM composed of the best available Filipino basketball players in Kuwait takes on a Kuwaiti team at the Kheifan Gym tomorrow.

The Filipino selection, playing under the name of Durrani Int'l RP Team, will find the Kuwaitis, Kuwait Sea Sport Club, (KSSC) difficult to beat when both the sides clash in an exhibition game tomorrow at 12.30 pm.

The schedule of all of tomorrow's matches is as follows:

8.00 am Pizza Italia vs Kaleco

9.30 am Kellogg vs Kirby

11.00 am Kuwait International Hotel vs Nissan Al Baitan

12.30 pm Durrani Int'l vs Kuwait Sea Sport Club

2.00 pm Overland vs NIC

3.00 pm Kuwait Regency Palace vs Hasawi Eagles

5.00 pm Al Wayne vs Trend Wave

The Kuwait Pinoy Basketball League Secretariat yesterday confirmed that visiting Philippine Senator Mamintal Abdul Jabbar Tamano, Congressman Allawadin Bandon and the Philippine Ambassador to Kuwait would witness tomorrow's proceedings.

The dignitaries are also expected to kickoff a KPBL/Filipino fundraising campaign in the aftermath of the worst ever earthquake to hit the Philippines.

One of the officials of the KPBL Secretariat said that the organisation was calling on all its members to attend tomorrow's proceedings to support the campaign.

## Austrian team

VIENNA, July 18, (UPI): Austria's technical ski team only just avoided making a fruitless trip to Mount Hutt, New Zealand, for the ill-fated scheduled opening races of the 1990-91 World Alpine Cup season. The two slalom and two giant slalom races scheduled to start July 30, were called off Monday because of lack of snow.



West Germany's Bernard Langer during last practice today for the British Open. (Reuters wirephoto)

starting tomorrow.

"Hopefully this will be the week for me. But even if it's not, I've got another 10 years of golf, maybe more, so I have at least another 40 majors to play in."

An era will end at St Andrews this week when Arnold Palmer brings down the curtain on 30 years of British Open participation.

Palmer, approaching his 61st birthday, confirmed yesterday that this was to be his final Open, appropriately at the same venue where he played his first in 1960.

In all, Palmer has played 21 Opens, winning in 1961 and 1962.

Recognised as the man who elevated the championship to its current exalted status by persuading his fellow American players to follow him across the Atlantic, he believes the time has come to fade into the background.

Time is marching on for Tom Kite and still he is without a major title to his name.

The 40-year-old Texan already holds the distinction of winning the most money on the US Tour, with lifetime earnings of nearly \$6 million.

But the major championship titles have always eluded him. Last year, he came closest when

he led early in the final round of the US Open. But he blew his chance, hitting a triple bogey and a double bogey to card 78 in the final round.

Kite said later it was the biggest disappointment of his life. Then he went on to win the US Tour money-winning title for the second time with record earnings for the year of nearly \$1.4 million.

"I need to win a major championship," Kite said on Tuesday as he prepared for the British Open.

"I have had a terrible year. I have not been able to capitalise on the situations I have created.



Raymond Floyd (left) and Palmer examine a ball. (Reuters wirephoto)



US Jack Nicklaus gestures as his son looks on. (Reuters wirephoto)



Spain's Seve Ballesteros sits on the 18th fairway of the Old Course.



Calcavecchia examines a ball.

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Ahmed Al JarallahEditorial Office:  
Airport Road, Sharjah,  
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13023 Safat, Kuwait

Tel: 22332 KT

Telefax: 481356 (main line)

Advertising: 4816326/7